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COMFORT

*The Key to Happiness and Success
in over a Million and a Quarter Homes*

DEVOTED TO ART, LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND THE HOME CIRCLE.

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COMFORT

The Key to
Happiness and Success in over
A Million and a Quarter Homes.

In which are combined and consolidated
SUNSHINE, PEOPLE'S LITERARY COMPANION, and THE NATIONAL
FARMER & HOME MAGAZINE.

Devoted to
Art, Literature, Science, and the Home Circle.

Its Motto is "Onward and Upward."

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Crumbs of Comfort

The true nobleman is born not made.
Ill deeds are doubled with an evil word.
Honesty needs no disguise nor ornament.
Nothing can bring you peace but yourself.
That life is long which answer's life's great end.
Rich gifts wax poor when givers prove unkind.

Press bravely onward; not in vain
Your generous trust in human kind;
The good which bloodshed could not gain
Your peaceful zeal shall find.

—Whittier.

He who knows most grieves most for wasted time.
Vice gets more in this vicious world than piety.

He who is firm of will moulds the world to himself.

Truth is the work of God, falsehoods are the work of man.

Tomorrow comes and we are, where? Then let us live today.

Our very wretchedness grows dear to us when suffering for one we love.

Disguise our bondage as we will,
'Tis woman, woman rules us still.

—Moore.

No disguise can long conceal love where it is, nor feign it where it is not.

Those who live on vanity must not unreasonably expect to die of mortification.

Little Prudy's Dotty Dimple

By Sophie May

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Susy and Prudy Parlin are delighted when Grandma Read tells them they have a new sister. In her joy Prudy falls down stairs. Prudy and Susy go in to see the new baby. Prudy tries to find the baby's teeth and blow her eyes open. The nurse sends them from the room. The little baby is named Alice and because of little dimples they call her Dotty Dimple. When she is old enough to run alone she is left in Susy's care. Susy, becoming interested in a book, forgets the child and Dotty runs away. Susy is frightened and tells her mother, who with Prudy and Susy search for Dotty. Florence Eastman leads her home.

When Dotty is three years old she goes to Sabbath school. She hears Sadie Bicknell's verse: "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Dotty insists upon reciting a childish rhyme. Strange words ring in Dotty's ears; she brings a "Tom Thumb lamp", and matches to the nursery, seats herself on the floor behind Prudy, draws off her shoes and stockings, rubs the whole bunch of matches, saying, "A lamp to my feet." She does not know how to turn back the chimney. Prudy's dress catches fire. She screams. Her mother and Norah put out the flames. They understand what Dotty learned at Sabbath school. Prudy was only putting a lamp to her feet. Mrs. Parlin, Susie, Prudy and Zip walk to Mrs. Eastman's, leaving Dotty at home. Percy Eastman happens in and takes Dotty home with him. Quarrelling with her cousin Johnnie, Mrs. Parlin goes home with Dotty. Prudy and Susie are invited to a party. Dotty wants to go and wishes her mamma would punish her—she is going to be naughty. Going to Prudy's closet she decides on wearing the red merino. By hard work she squeezes into it and fastens two of the buttons. She has a great delight for her mother's purple breakfast shawl, and puts on Nona's bonnet, so large Dotty looks lost in it. She dresses Zip in a water-proof cloak and they steal out by the side door. Several of the girls see the quaint figure, with the dog dressed up and are amused. Susie discovers it is Dotty and tries to get her home. Dotty refuses and they all sit down to supper. Dotty falls asleep and they wheel her home. Prudy attempts to teach Dotty her letters and she insists upon hearing a story.

Susy's pony needs new shoes and Mr. Parlin sends Eddy Johnson and Charley Piper with Wings to the blacksmith. Bringing him home the boys talk mysteriously of abusive treatment to the pony. Susy is indignant. Mrs. Parlin orders the boys to lead the pony to the back door, where she washes his wounds, trying all the while to soothe Susy. Mr. Parlin and Susie visit Mr. Grimes the blacksmith, and he explains how the pony was hurt. Mr. Parlin is satisfied. Mrs. Parlin and the little girls go to Willowbrook, Grandma Parlin's home. The summerhouse, seat in the tree, the swing are all in their old place. A boat, the Water-Kelpie is added.

CHAPTER VIII. (CONTINUED.)

THIS boat was kept chained to a stake on the bank, and no one could have a sail in it without first obtaining the key, which hung over the birdcage, in the back parlor.

Susy was charmed with the boat. It was lighter and nicer than the old canoe, which had so long been used by the family. She and Lonnie Adams, her aunt Martha's nephew, took daily lessons in rowing; but Susy, who had for years been accustomed to the water, knew how to manage a boat far better than did Master Lonnie. The boy strained every nerve, to very little purpose, while Susy would lightly dip in the oar, and turn it with perfect ease.

"I don't care," said Lonnie; "guess you can't drive a nail any better than I can, Susy Parlin, and I can row her some, anyhow. Now, Abner, can't I row her?"

"Yes, my boy, I think I've heard you roar," replied Abner, with a provoking smile.

"Well, can't I row her this way?"

"Middlin' well," returned Abner, cautiously; "but little Sue, here, is the water-man for me."

Susy's cheeks glowed, and there was a proud flash in her eyes as they met Lonnie's. At that moment she felt equal to the task of steering a ship across the Atlantic Ocean.

Not long after this praise from Abner, Aunt Martha said that she and Master Lonnie were going over the river, after some wild-flower roots, and would be glad to have the boat sent for them at five o'clock.

"Mayn't I be the one to go?" asked Susy.

"If you like," replied the grandmother; "that is, if Abner is willing."

Susy knew perfectly well that her grandmother had no idea of allowing her to go alone; but it so happened, when she reached the river, bank with the boat-key, that Abner was nowhere to be seen.

"Seems to me," thought Susy, "Abner is generally somewhere else."

"Where you goin', all alone, 'thout me?" cried Dimple, from the top of the bank.

"You here? What did you come for?" said Susy.

For answer, Dotty took a pair of rubber over-shoes out of Zip's mouth.

"Grandma says to put 'em right on, or you'll catch the hook'n' cough; the boat's wet."

"There, now," said Susy, putting on the rub-bers, "I've forgot the basket for those Jack-in-

If Congress inflicts a much higher postage rate on the publishers, as is now proposed, the subscription prices of all magazines and monthly papers, COMFORT included, will surely jump up in proportion.

This heavy blow, aimed ungratefully at those who have done most to educate, elevate and enlighten the people, will fall with oppressive force on the progressive millions that keep abreast of advancing civilization by reading the monthly periodicals.

The talk is to make us pay from three to eight times as much postage. Three to eight times as much as we now pay. THREE TO EIGHT TIMES the rate with which the daily and weekly papers are to be favored.

Is this a fair or reasonable distinction which discriminates with such gross partiality in favor of the daily and against the monthly paper?

We cannot stand it, as you will see when it is explained, that the postage on this very paper which you are reading would be about three cents a copy at the highest, and one cent at the lowest proposed rate.

About two cents a copy is all you pay us at the yearly subscription rate, and only a cent and a quarter at the rate of thirty cents for a two-year renewal.

You get this paper so wonderfully cheap because we pay only one cent a pound postage on it now, and we make the advertisers pay a considerable part of the cost of publication. Under these conditions only is it possible to give you such a low subscription price.

The subscriber now gets the benefit of the present reasonable postage rate and of the contributions of the advertisers.

As a result the American people are favored with the best and most numerous monthly papers and magazines in the world, and at the very lowest prices.

COMFORT HAS BEEN HELD UP AND MUCH DISCUSSED AS A SHINING EXAMPLE.

COMFORT'S subscription price will have to DOUBLE UP TO FIFTY CENTS a year if the threatened large increase in our postage rate is put in force. As you can see from the figures, the publisher can't stand it and the subscriber must pay it.

It seems unjust and unwise for Congress to impose the burden of such a tax on the reading public, bearing most heavily on the country people who constitute the bulk of the subscribers of the monthly papers.

The only reason given for raising the postage rate is to make the Post Office Department a paying institution but there is no need of resorting to such means nor of taxing the people to accomplish that result.

If Congress would only give us the parcels post the people could have their express packages carried by mail at half the price extorted by the express companies, and the government could make more than twenty million dollars a year out of it, and could even afford to carry the monthly periodicals free as a business proposition, because of the vast amount of profitable postal business which they create; but of course no one requests the latter, although it is proposed that the Post Office continue to carry the weekly papers free in their respective countries.

Within a few years, and on a comparatively insignificant investment of capital, four big express companies in this country have made a clear profit of more than a hundred million dollars in doing business which properly belongs to the Post Office Department to handle through a Parcels Post establishment.

WRITE TO YOUR CONGRESSMAN a vigorous protest against any change in the magazine postal rate, if that accords with your opinion, and ask him why the American people can't have the inestimable benefit of the parcels post, the same as is enjoyed by the subjects of every European monarchy.

John Wanamaker, the ablest Postmaster General we ever had, said "there are four reasons why the American people can't have the parcels post, and they are the four big express companies."

We should hate to be compelled to double up on COMFORT'S subscription price, and we still hope that Congress will not drive us to it.

Congress, now in session, has had this matter under consideration for more than two months. Until we know what its action is to be we cannot protect ourselves; we do not know what change in our subscription rate may be forced upon us. Those who have recently subscribed or renewed have the best of us. They are safe whatever happens.

Quite a number of subscriptions are now expiring, and we have to give notice thereof by enclosing to such subscribers the folder renewal blanks which give them the right to renew two years for only thirty cents, if they do it now.

By the uncertainty of the situation we are compelled to take the risk of accepting renewals and subscriptions at the old low rates during this month. But we cannot promise what the price may be in April.

Even this month, March, we accept no two-year renewals except on the envelope folder blanks. Therefore we print no two-year renewal coupon in this paper.

If you find a folder renewal blank wrapped in this paper it means that your subscription is about run out, and it gives you the privilege of renewing two years for only thirty cents, if you do it at once; which means now, not next month.

NO TWO-YEAR Renewals THIS MONTH

except on the envelope folder subscription blank. We can't say what the subscription or renewal price will be next month.

Don't apply for two-year renewal unless you do it on a folder renewal blank.

If you have recently renewed and you find a folder renewal blank wrapped in this paper it is because your name was put on the expiration list before your renewal was received. In such case, burn it up. But if you have not renewed, it behooves you to fill it out and send it in with thirty cents by return mail, lest you forget it until April first.

Baby Jim

BY CHARLES NOEL DOUGLAS.

(From Uncle Charlie's Song Book.)

Poor little Baby Jim ah, me! I often think of you,
That little smiling rosy face, those eyes of bonny blue,
Seem looking into mine tonight, and, ah! my heart is sad
To think, my dear, you are not here, to make my spirits glad.
How cheerless seems the house tonight, the wind it moans and sighs,
I just can't help the tears that keep a-coming in my eyes;
For when the day dies far away beyond the hillside dim,
My heart will yearn and fondly turn to you, dear Baby Jim.

Once more I see a childish face come peeping round the door,
And hear two little baby feet soft pattering 'cross the floor;
And now two chubby, childish arms my neck en-
circle tight,
A baby kiss, earth's sweetest bliss, and then, "Ta, Ta! Dood Night!"

Good night! ah, me! that baby voice re-echoes still to-day,
That kiss sublime, remorseless time can never wash away;
'Tis hard, so hard to think those lips that used my heart to thrill,
That touched my cheek, no more will speak, but now are cold and still.

A little lock of golden hair, a tiny shoe of blue,
Is all that now remains to me, dear Baby Jim, of you,
Except the precious memories, and they will ever last,
My heart they'll fill and linger till life's fitful dream is past.

'Twas hard, so hard to let him go, but, ah! I'll not complain,
He's past all care, in heaven there, he'll ne'er know pang or pain;
God knoweth best, he's safe at rest, and so, at close of day,
When night draws 'nigh I scan the sky, and breathe a prayer and say:

CHORUS.

Baby Jim, Baby Jim, where are you today?
Far beyond this misty earth, these twilight shadows gray,
In a sphere where ne'er a tear can come the eye to dim,
Ah, some day I, above the sky, will meet you, Baby Jim.

the-pulpit roots. Didn't grandma send it up?"

"No, she sended up me," replied Dotty; adding, quickly, "and I'm goin' where you go, you know; and if you don't go anywhere, I'm goin' there, too."

"That's just the way it is with you, Dotty Dimple; always coming when I don't expect you."

"Prudy coaxed me to," said Dotty, with one of her sweetest smiles and deepest dimples.

"Coaxed you?"

"Well," faltered Dotty, "she wanted to come her own self. She said she wished I'd stay to home—so, of course, I came!"

"I'll tell you how it is," said Susy, thoughtfully. "That queer old Abner's nowhere to be seen. I suppose he's in the cornfield, or the meadow, or the barn. It's after five; and what will Aunt Martha think? I could row across the river well enough by myself, if you'd only run home; you're such a bother!"

"O, my darlin' sister Susy! I won't do nothin' but just sit still. Who's your precious comfort?"

"Well, I don't know but I'll take you, then. Come, little Miss Trouble, jump into the boat."

So Dotty Dimple, being what Mr. Allen had called a "child-queen," had her own way, as usual.

"Why, where's the paddles?" said Susy. "The men must have hid them. Dear me, I can't stop to hunt; and here it is five o'clock long ago! O, I'll take this good smooth shingle, I declare! I guess it washed ashore on purpose; it's almost equal to a paddle. Now, we'll go, all so nice," continued Susy, fearlessly dipping the chance-found shingle into the water.

"O, my sus," said Dotty, clapping her hands, which had any amount of dimples on the backs; "we're goin'!"

"Of course we're going!" said Susy, proudly. "What did you expect? I can do five times as well with a shingle as Lonnie can with a paddle. What do you suppose Aunt Martha 'll say? Bravo! those are smart children, to be rowing all alone by themselves!"

"O, Susy, what a bubble-bubble we make in the water! Look at the bubbles winkin' their eyes! See those pretty wrinkles, all puckered up in the water!"

"I see 'em," said Susie, steadily plying her shingle; "but why don't you sit still? You'll tip us both over as sure as this world; and if we get drowned I guess grandma 'll scold! I shall be the one to have all the blame."

"O, dear," said Dotty, reeling about from side to side, "the boat's dizzy! My head's goin' to tip into the water. But don't you cry, Susy; you catch hold of me, and I shan't go!"

Susy was suddenly seized with mortal terror. "Dotty Parlin, I'll never take you anywhere again, as long as I live! You sit as still as ever you can, and fold your hands; fold them both!"

Dotty obeyed at once, and sat up quite straight, looking very sweet, and at the same time slightly acid, like a stick of lemon-candy. The Water-Kelpie, now that Dotty was quiet, floated on, safely and surely, towards the opposite shore.

It was a pretty picture—the white boat, the graceful children, and the still, blue water. Susy's fair arms were bare to the elbows, and her face was deeply flushed. Dotty's beautiful eyes danced, but she herself was motionless and demure.

When they landed, Susy called aloud for her Aunt Martha to come and secure the boat. Her voice echoed from afar, waking "the sleep of the hills," but no Aunt Martha appeared. The children clambered out at last, and Susy chained the boat to a stick, which she drove into the sand. But the sand was light, and the boat was heavy, and the current strong; so before the children had walked a dozen rods, the Water-Kelpie was floating down stream of its own free will.

Thus it happened that although Aunt Martha was certainly surprised, she did not seem very much pleased. She did not say, "Bravo! my two nieces are smart children, to be rowing all alone by themselves." Nothing of the sort. She reproved Susy for her rash conduct, and sent her and Lonnie around two miles, by the bridge, to ask Abner to come for them with the canoe.

Lonnie was very much comforted when he saw that Susy received no praise.

"I can row her myself," said he; "but I wouldn't put Dotty in, and most drown her, and dab along with that shingle."

The runaway Water-Kelpie was caught a little way below the bridge, and Abner slyly laid by the dripping shingle, and afterwards showed it to everybody, as a proof that "our Sue was an amazin' smart little waterman."

This famous boat-ride only had the effect to make Dotty Dimple more fearless than ever; but her next adventure on the water proved somewhat serious.

CHAPTER IX.

BROTHER ZIP.

There was to be a remarkable supper at Grandma Parlin's, in honor of Colonel Augustus Allen who was expected in the cars. There had been a grand excursion to welcome the soldiers, and the stage would probably be very late. Susy and Prudy had the promise of sitting up till it got in, if Dotty Dimple was only willing. But Dotty said:

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 30.)

A Few Words by the Editor

THE question of the home is such an extensive one, that it would take many entire issues of COMFORT to touch upon even a few phases of this vast subject, and therefore in such a brief article as this must necessarily be, the writer must ask the readers' indulgence, if, in the limited space at his command, he touches upon just those few points which appear to him at the present time to be of paramount importance.

The home is the grandest of all our institutions, the well-spring of all human virtues. Hallowed by tender and precious memories, woven into the warp and woof of life by the holiest associations, man has rightly regarded his home as heaven, the gift of God, a training place for that grander and more glorious home in brighter spheres beyond.

A man goes forth mechanically to his daily toil, and endures the trials, cares, worries and tribulations of the day, sustained by the ever comforting thought, that every passing hour brings him nearer to that eagerly awaited moment, when he may turn his face homeward to that haven of peace, rest, consolation and happiness, which, be it ever so humble, is still the dearest place to him in all the world. The little world in which he is king, the little kingdom o'er which he rules, and rules if he be a true man, with a scepter that is composed wholly and completely of kindness, sympathy and love.

Tender pictures of home, pleasing and soothing as they may be, must not blind us to the fact that there are homes in this country, aye, millions of them, which are mere travesties of what homes ought to be. It speaks volumes for human nature, and the godlike impulses that stir the soul of the animate clay we call man, that he can still cherish a holy affection for a foul den in a tenement, or a cold, leaky insanitary shack in the wilderness. Be it ever so humble home is still home to him, and he loves it.

But this very home love of ours should incite us to do our utmost to make our homes worthy the hallowed name. Nothing makes so much for progress as a healthy, wholesome discontent with anything short of the best that we can do and provide. It would be well for this nation of ours, if tens of thousands of its citizens would regard the habitations in which they are forced to drag out a miserable existence with disgust and loathing, and demand better and more sanitary homes, and insist that those who inhabit them be given a more equitable share of the wealth they produce, so that those homes may be worthy of the precious name which they bear, and thus become the abiding places of a healthy, virtuous, contented, happy people, people to whom life is not a mere struggle for animal existence, but a term of years filled with reasonable pleasures, culture, refinement and at least those simple embellishments of life without which our boasted modern civilization is a hollow mockery worse than savagery.

President Taft has described this as an automobile age, an age of mad extravagance. This comment, though partly true, is on the whole superficial. Through the centuries the human eye has been trained to shut out all the poverty, crime, misery, wretchedness and the unpleasant things of life, and to take notice only of those things which do not jar upon our susceptibilities, and so naturally when President Taft makes a comment on social conditions, it is the automobile he sees, and the evidence of extravagances only. The millions who are not riding in automobiles, but who are hanging on to street-

car straps, or plodding wearily on foot, the patient millions who are struggling desperately for a crust or too often committing suicide for the lack of work, cause no comment and pass alas! unnoticed. It is an eternal pity that the ordinary observer sees only the gilded top of the human pyramid with its wealth, folly, snobbishness and imbecility, and notes not the mighty base composed of tens of millions of struggling, toiling men and women, the solid foundation of this as of all other nations.

The home being the symbol of earthly happiness, and the corner stone of civilization and of the nation, it should be the constant thought of our educators, statesmen and legislators to protect, uphold and improve it by every means in their power. What, however, are the conditions in this great republic today? The cost of living has become so great that the very existence of millions of homes is being threatened. The toiler's meager wages in tens of thousands of cases will no longer make even an apology for a home possible. The result is, the wife is compelled to go out and seek employment, and the children are too early forced into wage slavery, before they have assimilated the mere rudiments of an education.

On every side the American home is being attacked by monopolistic greed, fostered by unjust laws or permitted to exist in defiance of laws which the weak only are compelled to respect and obey, while well-fed Congressmen split hairs, play politics, and whitewash graft in a desire to keep intact that curse of our land, the party machine. Congresses come and Congresses go, Presidential messages, models of diction and literary polish, follow each other with clock-like regularity from the White House to the Capitol, where they are solemnly read to a legislative body, controlled by two individuals notoriously caricatured throughout the land as the friends and protectors of entrenched monopoly in its nefarious work of robbing the masses of the people. While Congressmen are playing politics and making nice speeches to beguile the voters, millions of our homes are feeling the pinch of poverty. Gaunt-eyed want, not only stands at the door, but passes o'er the threshold. The nourishing stew which awaited the toiler on his homecoming, and which replaced the tissues wasted in the daily grind of building up profits for King Coal, King Steel and King Iron must now give place to a lone loaf, and even in the possession of that loaf the workman does not feel entirely secure.

The most terrible thing about the whole matter to the mind of the writer, is the utter lack of sympathy that exists for the masses of the people by those who have been elected to represent them and safeguard their interests, the utter inability of our legislators to grasp and understand the conditions that confront us, or to take adequate steps to remedy them. The months roll on, and the years follow, and the simple measures of reform which would do so much for the comfort and convenience of the American homes and the American people, are denied them.

In the last few years it is computed that close on three hundred and fifty million dollars have been sent in post-office orders to Europe, to be deposited in government savings-banks. This enormous sum of money would be in circulation in this country today, helping to give new life to every industry in the land, if it had not been for the stupidity or venality of some mis-representatives in Congress.

It is the same with many other measures that would directly benefit the people.

It is time the American people understood that if a politician is venal and unworthy, it matters not whether you call him a Republican or a Democrat, those names have no magic quality which can make him any the less contemptible, or any the less a public enemy. As a matter of fact it is the asinine and preposterous adherence to party, no matter whether that party be right or wrong, that is hurrying the ship of state on to the rocks of destruction, and threatening the American home with dismemberment and annihilation.

In regard to the trusts remember that big business is here to stay. The talk of destroying the trusts is but the parrotic prattle of idiocy. Destroy the trusts today, and in a few years you will have them back again, more powerful and aggressive than ever. Why? Because the trusts are the result of an irresistible economic evolution which no man-made laws can ever stop, halt or stay.

What we must do is not to destroy the trusts, but to control them by sane and sensible legislation, and compel them to obey the law, so that private monopolies, run for private profits may eventually, if the need arises, be transmuted into public monopolies for public use. The trusts must be made agents for public good and public benefit. Instead of raising the cost of living, they must be made to reduce it. Instead of making life intolerable, they must be compelled to make life more livable and enjoyable for the American people. Instead of being a menace to the American home they must be converted into a force that shall sustain and uphold it. The trusts must become the servants of the public and not its masters, a blessing and not a curse.

With private monopolies under control, postal savings banks, parcels post and income tax, election of senators by the vote of the people, the right to recall incompetent and faithless public servants, the establishment of a department of health and education, so that the diseases of men, women and children can receive as much attention as the diseases of hogs and cattle, a sane and sensible tariff, pensions for the aged, the abolition of special privileges, the overhauling of the courts, so that the machinery of justice may be expedited, and poor litigants have an equal chance of justice with the rich. With these measures enacted into law, and a square deal assured to all, the American home will be placed solidly upon a rock of righteousness which no earthly power can ever shatter.

Remember, then, the future of this country and the future of your home is in your hands. You have the power, see that you use it wisely, fearlessly and promptly and all will be well. Show apathy and indifference to your interests, manifest a lack of that spirit of patriotism which made your fathers glorious, evince a slavish servility to party bosses and party machines, permit peanut politicians to deliver you bound hand and foot to the trusts and this republic will pass as have other republics—to destruction and oblivion. God Almighty has given us in this country a magnificent birthright. It is for us to say whether this glorious gift of the Creator shall be used to His honor and glory or misused so that we and it may appear only contemptible in His eyes. Quit yourselves like men—be strong. On the altar of your homes swear a fresh allegiance to those ideals of truth, honor, virtue and patriotism which have made this country glorious in the past, and should make it still more glorious in the future.

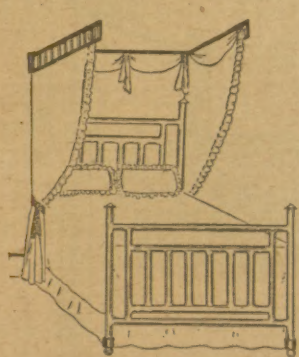
Comfort's Editor.

Home-Made Furniture that Adds to the Comfort of Every-day Life

and gives an air of luxury and beauty to the home. Easily constructed articles that anybody can make at odd times and spare moments by following these directions

Pretty Bed Screens

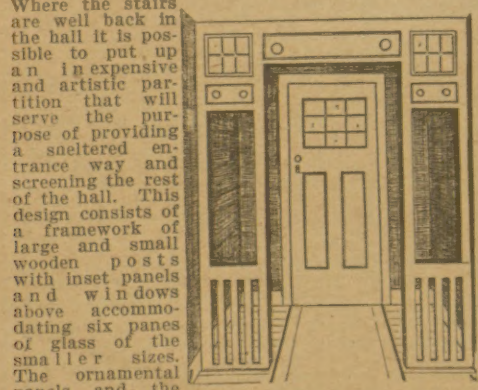
People who sleep with open windows are often disturbed by draughts and those who do not get up with the lark and the sunlight which streams into their rooms somewhat annoying. An invalid's bed is often best protected by a screen.



To meet any or all of these conditions the screen sketched here is most useful. It consists of muslin or other curtains hung from a bracket which is hinged to a block attached to the wall. When not required the curtain may be taken down and the bracket swung back against the wall. When the invalid wants air or sunlight the bracket and curtain may be swung back. If the bed stands in a corner, only one side of the bed need be curtained but if it is in the center of the room, both sides should be protected. These railed brackets may be homemade or ordered from the mill.

Fitted Vestibule

The long narrow hall without a vestibule, characteristic of old-fashioned houses, admits many a draught in winter and, when the door is thrown wide to let in the air in summer, deprives the interior of the house of its privacy, especially if one lives in a village or town and in a house that sets but little back from the street.



TO PREVENT A DRAUGHT.

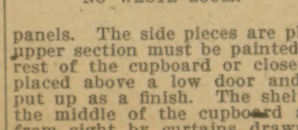
Where the stairs are well back in the hall it is possible to put up an inexpensive and artistic partition that will serve the purpose of providing a sheltered entrance way and screening the rest of the hall. This design consists of a framework of large and small wooden posts with inset panels and windows above, accented by six panes of glass of the smaller sizes. The ornamental panels and the windows may be omitted and the framework made of plain boards and finished with white enamel. In summer silken curtains on rods may be stretched across the openings in

the sides and a portiere of beads, ras or some light drapery substituted for the heavier material used for keeping out the cold in winter. Inside this little lobby the umbrella stand, hat and coat rack and a chair or box seat may be placed. In filling in the windows the smaller panes of glass the better. I have seen a design which was filled with panes made from the discarded plates of the amateur photographer of the family, the gelatine coating having been removed by warm water. If you will measure your hall, the parts needed can be supplied ready to adjust from the mill.

For the Top of a Closet

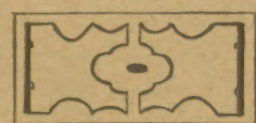
When a cupboard or closet does not reach to the ceiling, the space above may be fitted in with a fretwork or ornamental front of some kind and supplied with a shelf on which hat or clothes boxes may be tucked out of the way. The design shown in the sketch is self explanatory and may be cut out of thin white-wood by any boy who can use a fret saw. This or some similar design may be ordered at the mill. The mouldings divide the front into the three panels. The side pieces are plain. Of course the upper section must be painted or stained like the rest of the cupboard or closet. A shelf may be placed above a low door and this same fitting put up as a finish. The shelves run across only the middle of the cupboard and may be hidden from sight by curtains drawn across inside the opening.

NO WASTE ROOM.



Folding Stool

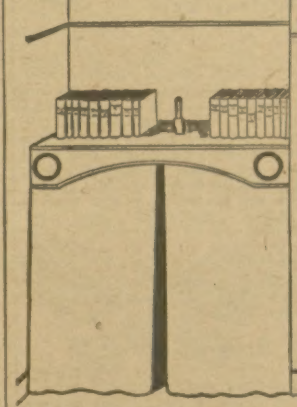
The accompanying sketch shows a small stool, the ends or feet of which are attached to the top by hinges so that the stool may be folded up and tucked away when not in use. The stool is useful as a support for the feet when shoes are polished or it is convenient to use when a book or dish is to be reached from a shelf just above the head. The end pieces should be wide and set in a groove so that they may be firm when the stool is opened for use. The top can be covered with any suitable material and given a permanent place in the living-room.



A REAL COMFORT.

An Alcove Closet

When the chimney in a room sets out, forming an alcove at one or both sides, it affords opportunity for the making of a corner cupboard or closet which in a dining-room may be used for storing extra china, in a sitting-room will be a convenient place for keeping old magazines, newspapers or books. In a bedroom it may be supplied with only a shelf or two for boxes while a trunk may be pushed under the lower shelf. The front piece, which is nailed to the top shelf and then edged with a moulding, hides the brass rod on which the curtains slide. A wreath or other design is cut at each end. Then the shelf is stained or painted or else it is stained and a pattern is stenciled on the wood. A few books or pieces of bric-a-brac add to the appearance of the top of the cupboard.



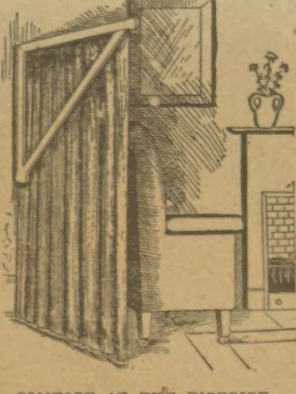
THE HOUSEKEEPER'S DELIGHT.

design is cut at each end. Then the shelf is stained or painted or else it is stained and a pattern is stenciled on the wood. A few books or pieces of bric-a-brac add to the appearance of the top of the cupboard.

Swinging Screen for Invalid's Chair

Old people or invalids who are not able to move about much frequently complain of stiff necks and pains in the shoulders which in current cases are the result of sitting in a current of air such as that between a partially open window or door.

As most of these shut-ins have their special corner, where you have no folding screen (and a large substantial folding screen is expensive) why not try the benefits of the swinging screen sketched here? It consists of a triangular frame formed of strong bars of wood one half inch to three quarters thick and an inch and a quarter to two inches wide. They are mitred at the joints and painted or stained to match the other woodwork in the room. A band of wood as long as the



COMFORT AT THE FIRESIDE.

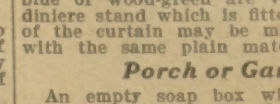
triangle is firmly fixed to the wall so that when hinged to it the frame will swing back and forward on a double-jointed hinge immediately behind the chair of the one to be benefited. A long serge, denim or art drapery curtain should be hung from the upper rod to the framework.

Useful Door Screen

When the door opens directly outdoors and one desires to protect the occupants from draughts in winter, the sun in summer or secure more privacy, this object may be attained by attaching a wooden rod to the top of the door frame and swinging on it a curtain fastened to brass rings.

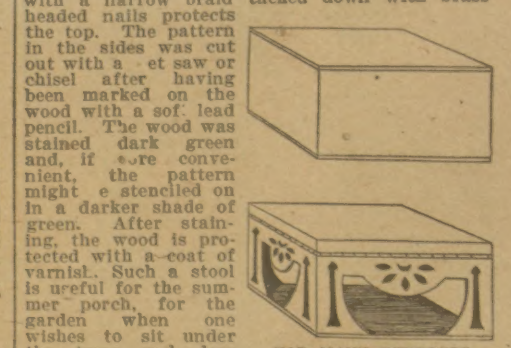
This curtain may be pushed back and forth as needed. The rod may be rendered more stable by attaching the extremity to a wire suspended from a hook screwed into the ceiling. Any inexpensive drapery fabric will do for the curtain. Denim or butcher's linen are especially good because they will wash and in shades of delft-blue or wood-green are very pretty. The jardiniere stand which is fitted into the space back of the curtain may be made of a box covered with the same plain material as the curtain.

AN ATTRACTIVE CORNER.



Porch or Garden Seat

An empty soap box with the lid nailed on formed the foundation for the attractive seat shown in the sketch. A cover of green oilcloth tacked down with brass-headed nails protects the top. The pattern in the sides was cut out with a set saw or chisel after having been marked on the wood with a soft lead pencil. The wood was stained dark green and, if more convenient, the pattern might be stenciled on in a darker shade of green. After staining, the wood is protected with a coat of varnish. Such a stool is useful for the summer porch, for the garden when one wishes to sit under the trees and does not care to court rheumatism by stretching on the grass. This also makes a handsome stand for large potted plants.



FOR MANY PURPOSES.

Pretty Articles to Make in and Around the Home

Originality in Household Furnishings

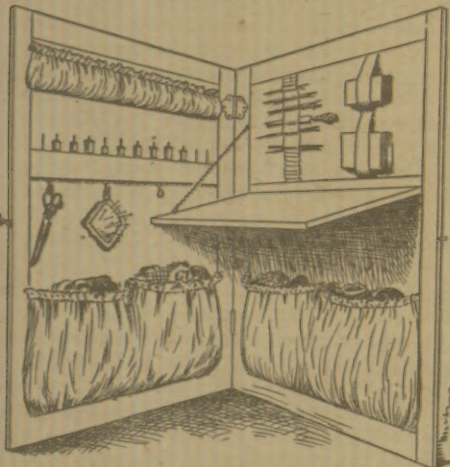
By Mrs. Wheeler Wilkinson

WE Americans are justly proud of our independence and yet in some directions we might be a little more independent and original to our individual advantage. For instance, in many homes where it is impossible to have the comforts which money can secure, by doing a little thinking and planning ordinary inexpensive materials will result in articles which will serve our purpose well. This month my object is to illustrate how some such needs have been met, and I feel sure COMFORT readers who have shown themselves particularly resourceful, will agree with me that these original methods of utilizing things on hand are well worth comment.

A Handy Work-screen

This well arranged work screen, designed by an old subscriber illustrates how much may be done with a little ingenuity and a small outlay of time and money.

For the frame use pine strips one half by an inch and one half. Make two frames exactly alike and measuring fifteen by thirty-five inches.



A HANDY WORK-SCREEN.

Fit across one a strip six inches from the top, and across the other one, ten inches from the top. To this screw on with small brass hinges a little shelf, cut to just fill the space above it and connected with the inside of the frame with a small chain. This shelf will be found most convenient for writing or for holding light work when busy. Screw in small brass hooks below this shelf for holding small articles.

In the strip in the opposite frame long headless brads are driven for holding spools and below small hooks placed as shown. Use medium-sized hinges to connect the frames, give all a coat of shellac and set away to dry, while getting the covering ready. For this some strong cotton material of good quality will be needed, so it will last, and three or more yards will be required according to the number of bags made. For these can be arranged to suit oneself. For instance instead of as illustrated, on the side opposite the shelf, two small instead of one deep bag, might be placed.

To cover the screen take a piece of material the length of the screen and twice the width, fold the wrong sides together, then turn in all edges, allowing a quarter inch all round, so the covering will not quite come to the edge of the wood. Press edges smooth and straight with a hot iron. Prepare a piece for the back of each side in this way, then cut the remaining material up into bags. Allow the width of the goods for fullness. Turn down two inches across the top of each, run two rows of stitching, leaving an inch ruffle and run in black half inch elastic, which should be stretched somewhat so as to hold the top of bags close.

Gather the lower edge of bags, stitch in place across the bottom and up the side. To the covering intended for the back of the right-hand side of the screen stitch two strips of inch wide elastic, dividing it into partitions by stitching crossways, for holding pens, pencils, stationery, etc. Use brass-headed tacks to attach covering to the back of the frame.

Sawhorse Work-basket

This most unique and conveniently arranged work-basket, I saw recently in a friend's sitting-room and, although when I praised her for her skill and ingenuity she only laughed. I finally persuaded her to tell me about it.

"It is nothing very wonderful," she said. "I simply got the idea from a rickety old sawhorse we have around and worked it out because my rooms are so small and I needed just some such contrivance to keep my things to-



SAWHORSE WORK-BASKET.

gether and give me more breathing space. And this does answer the purpose admirably," she added, with a glance of satisfaction at her handy work-basket.

So for the benefit of COMFORT's readers who will doubtless wish to go and do likewise I will tell as clearly as possible how this little stand was made.

The frame was constructed of four broom handles each thirty inches in length and five rungs from an old chair. Holes should be made just large enough to fit the ends of the rungs, and the center rung, which connects all four of the broom handles fitted securely into place, but not tightly, as the frame is intended to open and close. When this is done cut the lower ends of the broom handles at such an angle, that when standing on the floor the distance between the handles on each side at the top will meas-

ure sixteen inches across. Fit the two upper and lower rungs into place, have your rope ready for the sides and also sixteen inches of stout wire, before commencing to make the bag.

For this one will need forty inches of material, flowered cretonne or any pretty cotton goods is most suitable. Use the selvage for the sides, and along each turn in one inch and stitch down to make runnings for the ropes. Turn in each end of the cloth and 'so stitch, to run over the rungs. Now measure in twenty-two inches from one end of the cloth and fold then stitch across beginning in about two inches from the side and stitching to within two inches of the opposite side. An inch below this row of stitching place a second row of stitching, thus forming a running across the material, and parallel with the rungs at either end, for the wire. Run this in and also the rungs and fit them into position. Next run the rope through the sides and tie and tack securely at each end, allowing it to measure sixteen inches on each side from broom handle to handle.

Put the wire over the rope, bend around and cut. This should measure fourteen inches from side to side. It is rather a delicate piece of work too, to get it into place, as the material will have to be stitched and planned so it will come just right, but if one goes slowly in following these directions and plans each step, the result will be all right, and this little difficulty made plain as one comes to it.

For the fittings use the same material, or plain goods of solid color; from this make a pin cushion which can be tied in one corner. Fold two or three thicknesses of cloth and stitch a fold thirteen by one and one half inches; to this stitch an inch-wide band, forming little pockets for darning cotton, balls, spools, thimble, scissors, papers of needles, bodkins, etc., then place the whole across from side to side over the wire, and in the larger of the two bags, thus formed.

Rope covered or not with ribbon is next tacked on the rungs to form handles, so when through sewing it can easily be picked up and carried away. Full pompons of wool hide any deficiencies at each corner.

Folding Darning Bag

This attractive cut illustrates a good-sized bag hung in a wooden frame, which, when in use may stand open, or when not in use may fold and be set aside. Developed in cretonne, denim or any similar material which is sufficiently strong, it makes an ornamental and exceedingly useful bag in which the stockings or other articles to be mended may be kept, together with an inside bag for sewing materials, and if the following directions are carefully observed, you will have no difficulty in making one.



DARNING BAG OPEN.

The sides of frame are constructed by taking four-inch wide strips of wood twenty-four inches long and about three eighths of an inch thick. Use two for each side, cross them at centers, and rivet, leaving play enough to allow frame to open and close. Make four round or square crosspieces ten and three quarter inches long and about

three eighths of an inch thick, and with these join sides together at top and bottom by means of screws which enter crosspieces through sides. Place the top ones half an inch from ends and the lower ones an inch from lower ends. This completes a frame which may be stained or painted any desired color.

For the bag, first cut two round pieces of pasteboard which will measure six and a half inches across. Cover one side of each, turning material well over edges and either glue or sew securely. Now cut bag twenty inches long by thirty-six inches wide; seam together, gather bottom edge, which gathers you evenly arrange and sew between the two pieces of pasteboard you have covered, so the covered sides will make a finish for outside and inside of bag. Make two inch hem and stitch. Make second row of stitching three quarters of an inch back for run. Divide top of bag in four equal parts, and into two opposite quarters run a tape ten inches long and tack onto the sides of the frame two inches below the top end. This tape allows the bag to open and close. The other two quarters of bag are folded onto pieces of wood same as crosspieces of frame ten and three quarters long, which may be tacked or screwed into place. For pocket take piece of material eight inches deep by nine inches wide. Make two inch hem and stitch. Make second row of stitching a half inch back and run in tape ten and three quarters inches long. Sew lower edge and sides of pocket to bag on either end having material folded on crosspieces, letting top edge of pocket drop an inch below the top edge of bag.

CLOSED.

Comb and Brush Holder

Pasteboard and cretonne are here illustrated again, combined in another little article which is constantly needed in every home. The design is simple and made to fill the purpose for which it was intended.



COMB AND BRUSH HOLDER.

A piece of pasteboard nine by four and one half inches, serves for the front, and another piece as long and ten inches wide, with the upper corners rounded down so the sides measure eight inches, is used for the back. Both sides of each piece are covered and the edges bound all around with a darker piece of braid or folded strip of sateen, then the bottom edges are overlaid together, but the sides left open. Six brass rings either covered by crocheting over, or not, are placed thus, one each in the center of the front and back, one on each end

of the front and one opposite each of these on the sides of the back. Through these rings run a cord or ribbon tying in the front in a bow. Add loop to center of the back for hanging.

Clothes-pin Bag

For making this bag blue denim was selected, white tape used for binding and coarse cotton for outlining the words, as shown.

Cut a piece twenty by thirty-six inches, fold in the center baste together and round the lower corners. Cut quarter circles out of the upper corners of the outside and bind with tape. These openings should measure five and one half inches both down the sides and along the top. In cutting them out leave a good inch along the fold



CLOTHES-PIN BAG.

which can be turned down and stitched for the running cord which the "Madonna of the Tubs" may fasten about her slender waist. Use the tape for binding the edge all around and make a row of machine stitching up and down the center to form two pockets; this will enable one to reach the pins easily.

If such a bag as this is provided one will always have a safe and convenient place for keeping clothes pins. And finding them always clean does much towards keeping one sweet tempered on wash days.

Aunt Dinah Door Tender

Instead of the usual covered brick, perhaps someone will like to copy this cute little doll, who



THE FAITHFUL DOOR KEEPER.

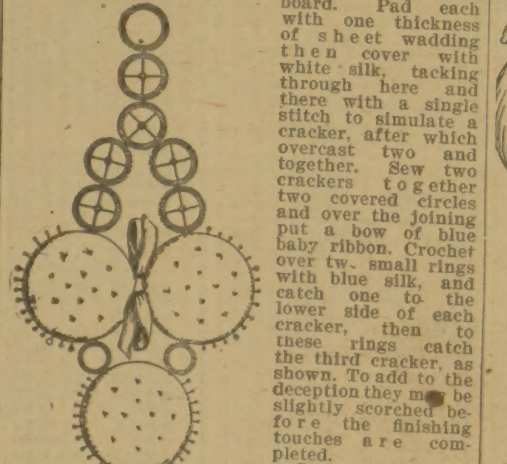
will faithfully tend some creaking door and keep it from slamming. To do so, first fill a round pint bottle with sand, then cover with a black stocking, cutting it off about three inches beyond the neck of the bottle. Tie tightly around the neck, then stuff the head with cotton making it as round and shapely as possible.

Draw the stocking smoothly over one side, which will be the face, and join on the back of the head, by gathering the edges up closely.

Then make loops of black darning cotton for the hair and paint the features in with white paint, or they can be worked with white darning cotton. Dress in a little gingham dress and white cross-banded apron, with a kerchief of the same about the shoulders.

Cracker Pin Balls

Cut six two-inch circles of light weight card-board. Pad each with one thickness of sheet wadding then cover with white silk, tacking through here and there with a single stitch to simulate a cracker, after which overcast two and together. Sew two cracker circles together.



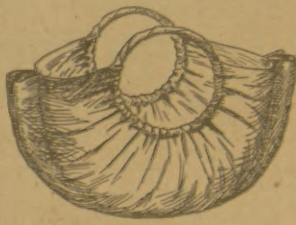
CRACKER PIN BALLS.

Two covered circles and over the joining put a bow of blue baby ribbon. Crochet over two small rings with blue silk, and catch one to the lower side of each cracker, then to these rings catch the third cracker, as shown. To add to the deception they may be slightly scorched before the finishing touches are completed.

Crochet over seven larger rings, barring off six by crossing at right angles, with silk, then catch together, one above another, fill the edges of the crackers with pins, and this dainty little contrivance is finished and ready to use.

A Sensible Bag

For any busy mother who always has an over supply of work on hand, or for any person who is engaged in knitting or crocheting any sizable article, this bag fills the bill admirably. Choose a pretty bright cretonne, which will make up quite as attractively as silk and is much more serviceable. Twenty inches, width of the material will be needed and two wooden rings. Shirr both ends of the cretonne over the rings and on either side of the bag.



ALWAYS READY.

Take a two-inch plait, catching both sides of the selvage together, as shown. Cover the upper half of the wooden rings with a folded strip of the same material or ribbon of a harmonizing shade. If one liked, several little pockets could be stitched onto the inside for holding scissors, thread, buttons, etc., or knitting needles and wool. Such a bag as this will prove very useful. Simplicity is one of its chief charms and it can be easily duplicated as it is without frills or furbelows.

Duster Bag

So long as time endures, the good housekeeper I suppose will be vexed with dust, and just so long too will dusters be needed to brush away "the velvet bloom of time." However as these indispensable little necessities, should be handy but not in sight, a holder should be provided. A very desirable and inexpensive bag for such a purpose, can be made by cross-stitching on the new coarse square mesh canvas. To make one such as is illustrated, and will be as ornamental as useful, take a piece of this canvas nine by twenty inches in size. Hem one end straight across and sew up the sides forming a bag eight inches in depth. Sharply point the other end and hem around and down the sides.



The word dusters and the remainder of the design can be copied, using red for the stitches which appear dark, green for the light ones and the stem and leaves, and yellow for the center of the red flower. Make a large ring of wire and cover by winding with narrow red ribbon.

Hemmed dusters of cream cheese cloth if kept in such a receptacle will always be found handy.

Skirt Hanger

Two safety or spring clothes pins and wire form the foundation of the next article illustrated.

In almost every case, it is said, one may judge a woman's character and habits by the condition of her belongings. One's general appearance speaks volumes, and clothes whether costly or of cotton, very quickly show the usage they receive. So if one is compelled to practice rigid economy extra care should be taken.



SKIRT HANGER.

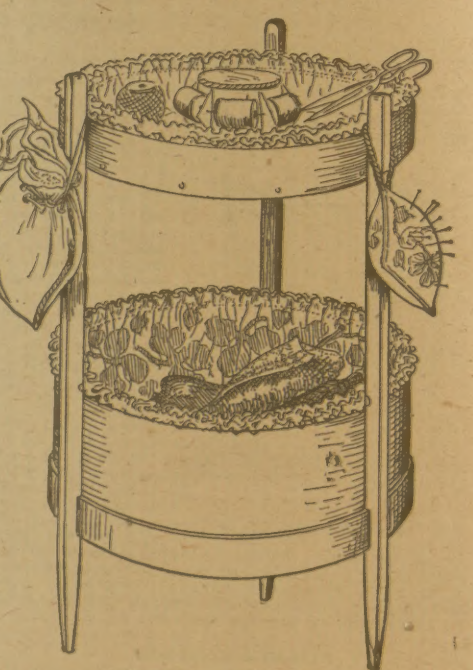
For this reason one girl's bright idea of a holder for skirts met with a ready market, as it was welcomed by the fastidious.

This little novelty can easily be copied, by gliding two safety clothes pins and connecting them by a stout wire, bent in a loop in the center as shown. Cover the wire by winding it with baby ribbon, making full rosettes at either end of wider ribbon; make three little sachet bags and fill with cotton, suspend them and a full bunch of ribbon loops form the center. This little contrivance will keep skirts in good condition and also delicately scented.

Cheese-box Work-stand

A cheese-box was the foundation of this simple yet original piece of work. To it were added the three legs, by the designer's husband, who was a carpenter, but this fact need not discourage women less fortunate in this direction, for here again broom handles would answer fully as well.

These should each be cut thirty-one inches long. Then the bottom of the cheese-box should be securely tacked in place, about seven inches



CHEESE-BOX WORK-STAND.

from the floor and the cover of the box placed upside down, about four inches from the top of the sticks, after which all should be either nicely stained or painted. When dry fit the inside of the box and cover with any pretty cotton goods, either plain or figured.

To do this take a piece of material one and one half times as long as the distance around the box, and about three inches wider than the depths of box. Seam and turn down an inch and a half along one side, then gather about an inch in, draw up so it will just fit around the inside of the box and then sew to a tape after which glue into place. Arrange the fullness around the sides evenly and also glue down to the bottom of the box. Next cut a circle of pasteboard, which will be a close fit, pad one side of this with cotton and add a little sachet if desired, then cover smoothly with material, gluing the edges down on the wrong side. Dry under a weight, after which place in the bottom of the box. The cover is lined in exactly the same way, only the sides could be fitted with small pockets if one desired and also a cushion added as shown.

In a small room, where space has to be economized such a stand as this will prove especially useful, as the posts can be utilized for hanging up work-bags, etc., the bottom is large enough to hold quite an amount and large pieces of work, while the top is fine as a catch all for one's sewing materials.

If women would give more thought to turning boxes, barrels and boards into things to fill some

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5.)

Fancy Work & Stenciling for Household Adornment

Cheese-box Work-stand

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

special need, many homes could be made much more comfortable, and attractive. Though I do not pretend to say that these home-made affairs are more beautiful than similar articles which can be bought it is a fact that they are fully if not more convenient and good workmanship will give to even cheap material an air which more expensive things often lack. With a little practice you will be surprised at the fertility of your own invention and will be encouraged by each success to go on to more independent ventures.

Bag and Whisk Broom Holder

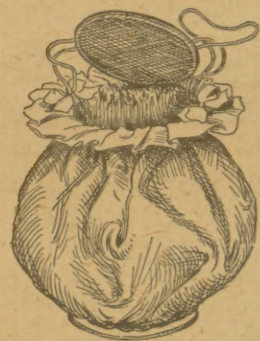
A combination bag could be made of silk, cambric, cretonne or any desired material, and one designed to serve this purpose and also answer as a whisk-broom holder is illustrated. This bag is made as the ordinary one is with the exception that a row of stitching is run straight across from side to side, four inches from the bottom. Just below this is fitted and stitched into place a triangle of pasteboard. Then on either end of the bag sew ribbon corresponding in color to that used at the top, bringing the sides up and tie together, thus forming a case for the broom. The top part may be used for many purposes, mufflers, driving gloves, veils, thus giving a safe and convenient place for these necessary articles and saving time, if one is methodical in putting away when they are taken off.



BAG AND BROOM HOLDER.

Crocheting and Knitting Bags

As something new in a bag that is useful as well as ornamental always finds favor with the sisters, I will describe the manner in which the one illustrated was made from flowered cretonne.



CROCHETING AND KNITTING BAG.

or other similar material: Cut two circles of heavy pasteboard measuring six inches in diameter, cover both sides of each with material used for bag and bind edges with narrow cross-wise band of same, or of a contrasting color. Take strip of cretonne eighteen inches long and forty-eight inches wide. Seam together, make hem at top edge three inches wide and stitch. Back of this make a second row of stitching sufficiently wide to admit a six and one half

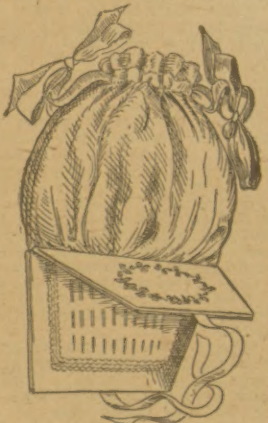
A Wall Cabinet for Bric-a-Brac

First attempts in any direction should be simple and care taken to creep before trying to walk. So the woman to whom the hammer is a stranger should of course go slow at first, but even a novice could make a beginning by constructing this simple yet effective arrangement of cigar boxes.

Six deep ones all of exactly the same size will be needed. First remove the covers, then soak off all labels; before tacking them together arrange as shown or in any other way particularly suited to a special space of wall. Add hooks here and there to the bottom and inside of the boxes if desired. File off all the screw points, and then give the boxes a coat or two inside and out, of orange shellac or varnish. When completely dry attach to the wall by screwing once or twice through the back of each box, and one will have an exceedingly attractive catchall for knickknacks of all sorts.

Needlebook and Case

This illustrates a needlebook and case, combined with bag for thread and thimble, one of the prettiest I have seen, and may be developed in any of the materials used for fancy work. For the needlebook portion, cut two pieces of heavy cardboard that will measure four and one quarter inches across



A COMBINATION BAG.

top, slanting sides two and three quarter inches deep, bottom two and three quarter inches wide. Cover with material used in making bag and line with contrasting color. Now lay flat these two pieces, tops together, and cut double thickness of lining in one piece, or size of cardboard. Baste edges together and sew to sides and bottom of cardboard, leaving tops free. This forms an envelope case effect which may be used for papers of needles. Make four needle leaves of white flannel and tack to center between cardboards, close and tie with half inch ribbon and you have completed needlebook. For bag portion take material thirteen inches long by seven inches wide. Fold, bringing two ends together and sew

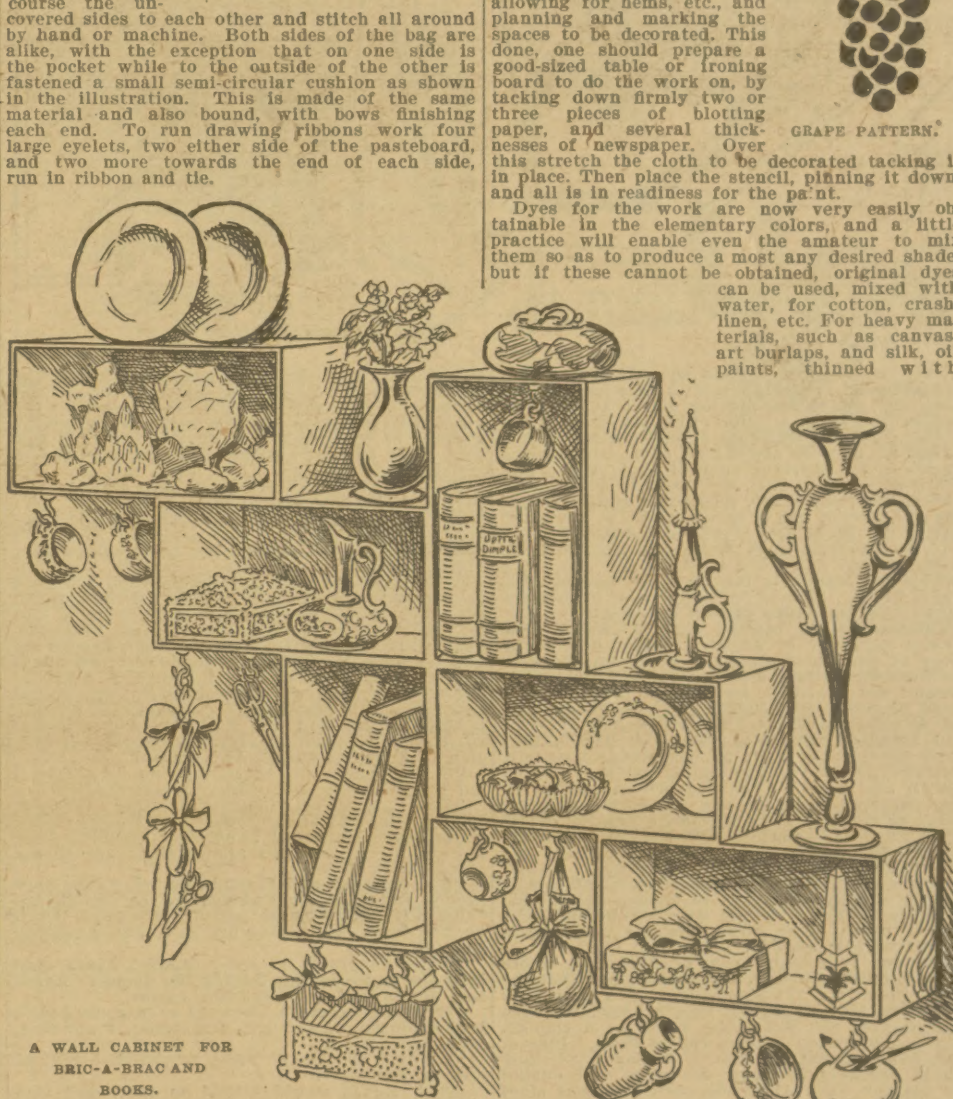
up sides. Make-inch and a quarter hem at top and divide into run for ribbon drawstring to gather in crease to width of top of book. Join to book by sewing gathers through double lining match ribbon on book. Crease bottom of bag and where the tops of book meet.

Darning Bag

A handy darning bag, and one which is well planned for this purpose has for its foundation four pieces of cardboard each six by six and one half inches, nicely rounded at the lower corners and smoothly covered. To the outside of one covered pasteboard, attach a small bag hemmed at the top and about four inches in depth, then bind each piece all around. Bind the ends of a piece of material one yard long by twelve inches wide, fold and baste this into plait, allowing it just long enough to go around three sides of the pasteboard squares. Lay the edge of these plaits in between two pasteboards, placing, of course the uncovered sides to each other and stitch all around by hand or machine. Both sides of the bag are alike, with the exception that on one side is the pocket while to the outside of the other is fastened a small semi-circular cushion as shown in the illustration. This is made of the same material and also bound, with bows finishing each end. To run drawing ribbons work four large eyelets, two either side of the pasteboard, and two more towards the end of each side, run in ribbon and tie.



DARNING BAG.



A WALL CABINET FOR BRIC-A-BRAC AND BOOKS.

Stenciled Decorations

Stenciling, which is a simple and effective way of decorating table covers, centerpieces, curtains, scarfs, pillow covers, cushions, bags, belts and borders for portieres, sacques, kimono, and numerous other articles, is simply a primitive way of printing materials which is still used by the Orientals in making many of the beautiful fabrics.

This art can be successfully undertaken by most anyone, as the tools and materials are most simple and inexpensive.

The work can easily be carried on at home, and can be done as well in the evening as in the daytime.

If one has even, only slight artistic ability, they can design their own stencils, but lacking this, designs can be copied from magazines, wall papers, carpets, etc.

A stencil is a pattern cut out, through the open spaces of which color is to be applied to the article to be decorated. In using any pattern for stenciling it is absolutely necessary to leave a sufficient amount of space between all parts of the design. These are called ties and serve to hold the stencil together, and an omission of these either by neglect when designing or afterward when cutting out the pattern will surely lead to unhappy results.

TULIP PATTERN.

WARD when cutting out the pattern will surely lead to unhappy results.

Making a Stencil

To turn out good work, it is most important that one should be particularly careful and painstaking in making the stencil, as it can be used over and over, and if well made, cutting all lines evenly, finished work will show up clearly and sharply.

To make a stencil first trace the pattern to be used on tracing or tissue paper, then transfer to stencil paper with transfer paper, or if these articles cannot be procured, trace the design on the other side of the tissue paper with a very soft pencil, then laying this side down on a sheet of common heavy manilla paper, it can easily be transferred sufficiently by going over the original side carefully with a pencil. When the design is clearly drawn on the paper coat each side with as much linseed oil as the paper will absorb, and then press under a heavy weight until it lies smoothly.

If not convenient to oil, give a good coat of varnish, tack the corners down to keep it flat and let it dry all night. When ready to cut, tack two thicknesses of blotting paper, or several newspapers to a smooth board. Over this place

the stencil to be cut, and with the point of a very sharp knife cut out the design. Care must be taken to follow the outlines of the design with perfect accuracy, taking every precaution to keep the edges perfectly smooth, as any little irregularity here will show itself very noticeably in using the stencil later.

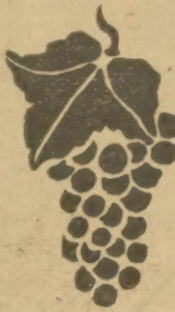
In cutting out the portions of the design to be removed, constantly turn your paper so that the point of the knife will point toward, enter into, and sharply cut all angles. In this way you will avoid tearing out the corners. Care should also be used in cutting, not to reduce the ties or white portions as these weaken the stencils, and may result in the colors running together.

After finishing cutting with the knife take the pattern up and hold it against the light to see whether the complete design is cut out. Then if necessary, with a pair of small scissors trim off any ragged edges. Now give the stencil another coat of varnish on both sides. When dry enough, press flatly under a heavy weight.

The stencil is now ready to use. When ready to begin the work it is better to practice by doing some simple design in only one or two colors on inexpensive material. One might begin by doing a pair of sash curtains of light weight unbleached cotton or the best grade of cheese cloth.

The first step is to make the measurements correctly, allowing for hems, etc., and planning and marking the spaces to be decorated. This done, one should prepare a good-sized table or ironing board to do the work on, by tacking down firmly two or three pieces of blotting paper, and several thicknesses of newspaper. Over this stretch the cloth to be decorated tacking it in place. Then place the stencil, pinning it down, and all is in readiness for the paint.

Dyes for the work are now very easily obtainable in the elementary colors, and a little practice will enable even the amateur to mix them so as to produce a most any desired shade, but if these cannot be obtained, original dyes can be used, mixed with water, for cotton, crash, linen, etc. For heavy materials, such as canvas, art burlaps, and silk, oil paints, thinned with



GRAPE PATTERN.

turpentine or benzine. Even ordinary house paints thinned yield excellent results on dark canvas and burlaps, though some object to the slight stiffness and gloss which they impart.

To do this work only a few colors are needed, with these five, ultramarine blue, yellow ochre, crimson lake, emerald green, and black one can make an infinite variety of tones and shades. If one has used paints they will readily understand how to get the desired color. If not, a little experimenting will be necessary.

Try a little of the color at a time, and test on the material to be used, as the texture and color of the fabric affects the tone of the dye more or less. A general rule to follow is this: Blue and yellow make green; blue and red, purple or lavender; yellow and red, orange or brown. A little black will soften or gray the color, and by using a third color with any of these combinations an infinite number of tones may be obtained; in using the dyes, more or less water, and applying heavier or lighter any number of shades may be secured. Stiff bristle brushes should be used and one having short bristles and from one half to one inch in width is best. A different brush for each color will be needed.

The color should be applied by lightly tapping it onto and into the goods through the stencil.

Mistakes to Be Avoided

There are three mistakes which the beginner should avoid. First do not fail to have a clear idea of the parts of the design which are to be done with one tone or color and always stencil these at the same time with the same shade. Second, do not start with insufficient color as it is exceedingly difficult to mix a new supply which will exactly match that already applied. Third, do not make the mistake of trying to rub the color into the fabric. Simply tap it lightly, and it will sink rapidly into the texture. Also avoid putting on too much color, as stiff painty effects are undesirable.

When the full stenciled pattern has been colored remove the pins and apply the stencil to the remainder of the work one has in hand. It will be readily understood that if the stencil is cleaned with turpentine it may be reversed in order to stencil the opposite corners or those parts of a border which run in an opposite direction.

A very handsome design may be worked out using the cones, needles and stems of the pine. The cone and stems should be painted in nearly the same shade of brown and the needles in green. Such a design would be suitable for cur-



PINE CONES.

Mrs. A. Hempel submitted the curtain here illustrated, choosing the poppy for her motif, which worked out most effectively. This design was very simple, only shades of green and red being used with a little black in the center of the poppies. The eight-inch valance placed at the top, between the curtains proper, added much to the general effect. Cross-hatched muslin was used for these curtains but the best grade of cheese cloth is equally as pretty, being sheer and dainty.

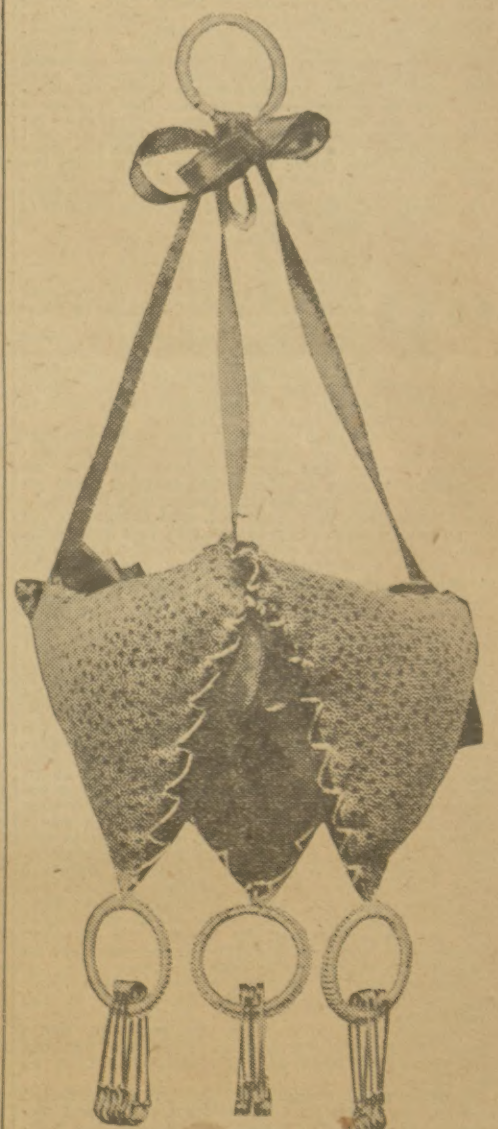


AN ATTRACTIVE CURTAIN.

Hanging Cushion

It is often puzzling to think up new forms for making old things but if each of the many necessary little articles needed by everyone, were only first planned out, results would be better. Cushions are among the things which are always needed, which may be made in a variety of forms, and Mrs. Lizzie Moulton has successfully worked out an idea for a hanging one, which can easily be duplicated. Little skill or material will be needed as the design is so simple. First make three triangles measuring two and one half inches each way. Use silk for one side, and a darker silk or velvet for the other, fill each and then place them together, as shown, and sew at the corners. Crochet over four small rings, three of which are attached to the three lower points of the cushion on which hang safety pins.

Finish by tying narrow ribbon to the fourth ring, and then bringing down and catching between each cushion with a group of loops.



DAINTY AND USEFUL.

This idea could be worked up in a more elaborate way, by adding a touch of embroidery to each cushion and lace to the edges and would make a dainty Easter gift.

MADDY'S TEMPTATION OR, A HEROIC SACRIFICE

By
MRS. MARY J. HOLMES.

HE LAID HIS HAND
GENTLY ON HER
SHOULDER
CONPELLING
HER TO LOOK
UP.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Madeline Clyde, a young girl, not fifteen, anxious to help pay the mortgage on her Grandfather Markham's farm applies for a school. Dr. Holbrook, a native of Boston, and lately settled in Devonshire, is appointed Inspector of schools. Guy Remington, engaged to Lucy Atherstone, his stepmother Agnes, in love with Dr. Holbrook, and her daughter Jessie, drive from Alkenskide. In a spirit of fun Dr. Holbrook asks Guy Remington to examine Maddy. If she is competent Dr. Holbrook will write the certificate. Grandpa Markham leaves Maddy at Dr. Holbrook's office and drives to Alkenskide to ask Guy Remington for the loan of three hundred dollars.

Guy Remington asks questions beyond Maddy's understanding and she fails. She overhears Guy when he tells Dr. Holbrook she may be good as the average. The doctor attempts to write the certificate. Maddy confronts them and refuses to accept what would be a lie. She faints dead away. Jessie Remington finds her and calls her brother and Dr. Holbrook, who applies restoratives. They leave her with Jessie and she tells her the disappointment in not helping pay the mortgage. Guy is not at home, and Mrs. Noah, who knows his business, gives Grandpa Markham no encouragement. Driving home, he sees Guy Remington's carriage. He raises his hand for the driver to stop and reins his horse a little too near, and there is a collision. Guy seizes the driver by the collar and buries him from the seat. Grandpa makes his request. Guy is about to make repairs on Alkenskide and partially promises to loan money to Mr. Silas Slocum on good security. It's Grandpa Markham's homestead. Guy changes his mind and will not loan to Slocum. Three days later and Maddy Clyde is sick with a raging fever. Dr. Holbrook is called. He hears Maddy talk of the examination, of the mortgage and foreclosure and that Beauty must be sold. He repeats his mistake. Guy and Jessie, with the doctor, drive to Maddy's home. The latter sits by her side as she returns to partial consciousness. Guy promises Grandpa Markham money to pay the mortgage and then he tells Guy how he saved his father's life and shows the long white scar on his forehead. Dr. Holbrook rides back to Alkenskide with Guy. The doctor's presence prevents Mrs. Remington from a passion when told Jessie is exposed to a fever. Dr. Holbrook will be answerable for any disease caught at Mr. Markham's. At the mention of this name Mrs. Remington glances at Guy. She imagines a peculiar expression in his face. Jessie asks to visit Maddy. Mrs. Remington refuses. The doctor wonders what he can take Maddy. Guy enters with an exquisite bouquet. Dr. Holbrook takes it to Maddy for a drive. Guy Remington. The doctor takes Maddy for a drive; they met Mrs. Agnes Remington. Maddy is fascinated by her beauty and the glitter of a gold bracelet. She asks the doctor if he is a Christian. He ought to be if he is so old—only ten years older than Maddy. Agnes' husband was twenty years older. Maddy insists she cannot marry a man more than five years older. The doctor requests her to remember that Maddy is Maddy repeats the conversation to her grandmother, who tells her the ruin wrought by a young girl, who fancies herself in love with Maddy's great uncle Joseph and who leaves him for wealth and position.

Agnes Remington proposes a trip to Saratoga. Meanwhile a governess must be procured for Jessie. Dr. Holbrook calls and recommends Maddy Clyde. Rather than have Jessie associate with a country girl she will stay at home. She has her choice. The following morning she relents and writes a letter to Maddy Clyde. Reading it to Guy he substitutes companion for "waiting maid" and pays three dollars per week instead of one. Dr. Holbrook brings Maddy to Alkenskide. She is disappointed not to meet Guy who starts that day for Saratoga with Agnes. Maddy is bewildered when Jessie asks her what dress she will wear to dinner, can she carve, and does she like green turtle soup? The doctor passing her room, hears the sound of weeping, and going to Maddy, she declares she can never do as they do. He draws Jessie aside and adroitly tells her the cause of the tears. Maddy is introduced to Mrs. Noah.

CHAPTER X. (CONTINUED.)

"PLEASE call me Maddy. They do at home, and I shan't be quite so—"

Mrs. Noah understood her, and remembering her own experience when first she went from home, she involuntarily stooped to kiss the pure, white forehead of the girl, who henceforth was sure of one champion at least at Alkenskide.

The dinner was a success, so far as Maddy was concerned. Not a single mistake did she perpetrate, though her cheeks burned painfully as she felt the eyes of the polite waiters fixed so often upon her, and fancied they might be laughing at her. But they were not, and thanks to the kind-hearted Guy, they thought of her only with respect, as one who was their superior and must be treated accordingly. Knowing how different everything was at Alkenskide from that to which she had been accustomed, Guy, with the thoughtfulness natural to him, had taken the precaution of speaking to each of the servants concerning Miss Clyde, Jessie's teacher. As he could not be there himself when she first came it would devolve upon them, more or less to make it pleasant for her by kind, civil attentions, he said, hinting at the dire displeasure sure to fall on anyone who should be guilty of a misdemeanor in that direction. To Paul, a coachman, he had been particular in his charges, telling him who Maddy was. The carriage was to be at her and Jessie's command, Paul never refusing a reasonable request to drive the young ladies when and where they wished to go, while a pretty little black pony, recently broken to the saddle for Agnes, was to be at Miss Clyde's service, if she chose to have it. As Guy's slightest wish was always obeyed, Maddy's chances for happiness were not small, notwithstanding that she felt so desolate and lonely when the doctor left her, and standing by Jessie, she watched him with a swelling heart until he was lost to view in the deepening twilight.

Feeling that she must be homesick Mrs. Noah suggested that she try the fine piano in the music-room.

"Maybe you can't play but you can drum 'Days of Absence,' as most girls do," and opening the piano she bade Maddy "thump as long as she liked."

Music was a delight to Maddy, who coveted nothing so much as a knowledge of it, and sitting down upon the stool, she touched the soft-toned instrument, ascertaining by her ear several sweet chords, and greatly astonishing Jessie, who wondered at her skill. Twice each week a teacher came up from Devonshire to give lessons to Jessie, but as yet she could only play one scale and a few simple bars. These she attempted to teach to Maddy, who caught them so

"REMOVE MISS CLYDE'S PLATE, NO ONE ALLOWS THEIR GOVERNESS TO EAT WITH THEM."

quickly, and executed them so well that Jessie was delighted. Maddy ought to take lessons, she said, and some time during the next day she took to Mrs. Noah a letter which she had written to Guy. After going into ecstasies over Maddy, saying she was the nicest kind of a girl, that she prayed in the morning as well as at night, and looked so sweet in blue, she asked if she couldn't take music lessons too, advancing many reasons why she should, one of which was that she could play now a great deal better than herself.

It was several days before an answer came to this letter, and when it did it brought Guy's consent for Maddy to take lessons together with a note for Mr. Simons requesting him to consider Miss Clyde his pupil, as well as Jessie.

Though greatly pleased with Alkenskide, and greatly attached to Jessie, Maddy had many hours of loneliness when her heart was back in the humble cottage where she knew they were missing her so much, but now a new world, a world of music, was suddenly opened before her, and the homesickness all disappeared. It had been arranged with Mrs. Noah, by Agnes, that Jessie should only study for two hours each day, herself, and well did she improve it, making so rapid progress that Simons looked on amazed, declaring her to be without a parallel, while Jessie was left far behind. Indeed, after a short time Maddy might have been her teacher, and was of much service in her practicing.

Meanwhile the doctor came often to Alkenskide, praising Maddy's progress in music, and though he did not know a single note, compelling himself to listen while with childlike satisfaction she played him her last lesson.

She was very happy now at Alkenskide, where all were so kind to her, and half wished that the family would always remain as it was then, that Agnes and Guy would not return home, for with their coming she felt there would be a change. It was now nearly time to expect them. Indeed, Guy had written on one Saturday that they should probably be home the next, and during the ensuing week Alkenskide presented that most uncomfortable phase of a house being cleaned. Everything must be in order for Mr. Guy, Mrs. Noah said, taking more pains with his rooms than with the remaining portion of the building. Guy was her idol; nothing was too good for him, and she said so much in his praise that Maddy began to shrink from meeting him. What would he think of her? Perhaps he might not notice her in the least, and that would be terrible. But, no, a man as kind as he had shown himself to her would at least pay her some attention, and so at last she began to anticipate his coming home, wondering what she should say to him, and what he would think of her.

CHAPTER XI.

AT HOME.

Saturday came at last. They were expected at about six in the afternoon, and just before that hour the doctor rode up. In the dining-room the table was set as Maddy had never seen it set before, making with its silver, its china, and cut glass, a glittering display. There was Guy's Maddy felt sure that the two places between Agnes and Guy were intended for Jessie and herself, the doctor occupying the other side. Jessie would sit near her mother, which would leave her near Guy. Would he think her awkward? Suppose she should drop her fork, or upset one of those queer-looking goblets, and Maddy's cheeks tingled at the very thought of such a catastrophe. Were they goblets really; and if they were not, what were they? Summoning all her courage, she asked the doctor, and learned that they were the finger-glasses, of which she had read, but which she had never seen before.

"Oh, must I use them?" she asked, in so evident distress that the doctor could not for a moment bear a laugh as he told her it was not of the slightest consequence whether she used them or not, advising her to watch Mrs. Agnes, who was as fast in all such matters.

Six o'clock came, but no travelers. Then an hour went by, and there came a telegram that the cars had broken down and would not probably arrive until late in the night. Greatly disappointed, the doctor, after dinner took his leave, telling the girls they had better not sit up. Consequently, at a late hour they both retired, sleeping so soundly as not to hear the noise outside the house; the banging of doors, the setting down of trunks, the tramp of feet and Mrs. Noah's words of welcome.

Agnes and Guy had come. As a whole, Agnes' season at Saratoga had been rather disagreeable. Guy, it is true had been exceedingly kind. She had been flattered and had heard herself called "that beautiful Mrs. Remington," and "that charming young widow," but no millionaire had asked to be her second husband. She liked the doctor, but if he did not propose, and some other body did, she should accept that other body, of course. This was her intention when she left Alkenskide, and when she came back, it was with the determination to raise the siege at once, and compel the doctor to surrender. She knew he was not wealthy as she could wish but his family were the Holbrooks, and as she post-

tively liked him, she was prepared to waive the matter of money. In this state of mind, the morning of the return home, she listened with a troubled mind to Jessie's rather exaggerated account of the number of times the doctor had been there, and the nice things he had said to her and Maddy.

"He had visited them many times, staying ever so long. I know Maddy likes him; I do, anyway," Jessie said, never dreaming of the passion she was exciting, and a desire to be revenged on a girl whom Dr. Holbrook visited "many times."

What was she that he should care for her? A mere nothing—a child, whom Guy had taken up. Pity there was a Lucy Atherstone in the way of his making her mistress of Alkenskide. It would be a pretty romance, Guy Remington and Grandpa Markham's grandchild. Agnes was nervous and tired and this helped to increase her anger toward the innocent girl. She would take immediate measures, she thought, to put the upstairs down, and the sight of Flora laying the cloth for breakfast suggested to her the first step in teaching Maddy her place.

"Flora," she said, "I notice you are arranging the table for four. Have we company?"

"Why, no, ma'am; there's Mr. Guy, yourself, Miss Jessie, and Miss Clyde," was Flora's reply, while Agnes continued haughtily: "Remove Miss Clyde's plate. No one allows their governess to eat with them."

"But, ma'am," and Flora hesitated, "she's very pretty, and lady-like, and young; she has always eaten with Miss Jessie and Dr. Holbrook when he was here. He treats her as if she was good as anybody."

In her eagerness to serve Maddy, Flora only hurt the cause by mentioning the doctor. Agnes was determined now, and she replied:

"It was quite right when we were gone, but it is different now, and Mr. Remington, I am sure, will not suffer it."

"Might I ask him?" Flora persisted, her hand still on the plate.

"No," Agnes would attend to that, and also see Miss Clyde. All Flora had to do was to remove the plate, which she finally did, muttering to herself: "Such airs! But I know Mr. Guy won't stand it."

Meantime Maddy had put on her prettiest dress, tied her little dainty black silk apron, and started for the parlor to meet Mrs. Agnes. Jessie had gone in quest of her brother, and thus Agnes was alone when Maddy Clyde first presented herself before her. She had not expected to find Maddy so pretty. Dr. Holbrook had caused for being attracted by that fresh, bright face, she thought, and so she steered herself against the better impulses, which pleaded that for the sake of the past she should be kind to Maddy Clyde.

"Oh, good morning. You are Jessie's governess, I presume," she said, bowing distantly, and involuntarily extended toward her. "Jessie speaks well of you. You have had a pleasant time, I trust?"

Her voice was so cold and her manner so distant that Maddy's yes for an instant filled with tears, but she answered civilly that she had been very happy, and everybody was very kind. It was harder work to put down Maddy Clyde than Agnes had expected, and after a little further conversation there ensued a silence which neither was inclined to break. At last, summoning all her courage, Agnes began:

"Excuse me, Miss Clyde, but your own good sense must tell you that now Mr. Remington and myself are at home, your intercourse with our family must be rather limited—that is, that neither Mr. Remington nor myself are accustomed to having our governess very much with us. I suppose you have had the range of the parlors, sitting there when you liked, and all this was perfectly proper. Mind, I am finding no fault with you. It is all quite right," she continued as she saw the strange look of terror and surprise visible on Maddy's face. "The past is right. Society makes a difference. Don't you know it does?"

"Yes—no—I don't know. Oh, pray tell me what I am to do!" Maddy gasped, her face as white as ashes, and her eyes wearing as yet only a scared, uncertain look.

With a graceful toss of the head, Mrs. Agnes replied:

"You are not of course to go to Mr. Remington. It is my matter, and does not concern him. What I wish is this: You are to come to the parlor only when invited, and are not to intrude upon us at any time, particularly when company is here, such as—well, such as Dr. Holbrook, if you please. As you cannot be with Jessie all the while, you will, when your labors as governess are over, sit in your own room, or the schoolroom, or walk in the back yard, just as the higher servants do—such as Mrs. Noah, and the sewing-girl, Sarah. Occasionally we shall have you in to dine with us, but usually you will take your meals with Mrs. Noah and Sarah. By following these directions you will I think, give entire satisfaction."

When Mrs. Agnes had finished this, Maddy began to understand her position. Wholly inexperienced, she had never dreamed that a governess was not worthy to sit at the same table

"YOU DESPISE MADDY
CLYDE FOR BEING A
GOVERNESS; YOU WERE ONE
ONCE YOURSELF"

with her employer, that she must never enter the parlors unbidden, or intrude herself in any way. No wonder that her cheeks burned at the de adation, or that she felt like defying the proud woman to her face. But the angry words trembling on her tongue were repressed; and with a bow as haughty as any Mrs. Agnes could have made, and a look on her face which could not easily be forgotten, she left the room, and in bewilderment sought the garden, where she could, unseen, give way to her feelings.

Once alone, the torrent burst forth, and burying her face in the soft grass, she wept bitterly, never hearing the step coming near, and not at first heeding the voice which asked what was the matter. Guy Remington, too, had come out into the garden. He knew it was Maddy, and greatly surprised, asked what was the matter. Then, as she did not hear him, he laid his hand gently upon her shoulder, compelling her to look up. In all her imaginings of Guy she had never associated him with the man who had so puzzled and confused her, and now she did not for a time suspect the truth. She only thought him a guest at Alkenskide; someone come with Guy, and her degradation seemed greater than before. She was not surprised when he called her by name; but she did wonder a little what Mrs. Agnes would say, could she know how kindly he spoke to her, lifting her from the grass and leading her to a rustic seat at no great distance from them.

"Now, tell me why you are crying so? Are you homesick?" and Maddy burst out again. "Oh, sir, I was so happy here till they came home. Mrs. Remington and Mr. Guy. I never thought it was a disgrace to be a governess, or that I was not good enough to eat with them, till she told me this. Oh, dear, dear!" and choked with tears Maddy stopped a moment to take breath.

She did not look up at the young man beside her, and it was well she did not, for the dark expression of his face would have frightened her, and impatient to hear more, he said to her:

"Go on," so sternly, that she started, and replied:

"I know you are angry with me and I ought not to have told you."

"I am not angry—not at you, at least—go on," was Guy's reply, and Maddy continued:

"She told me now they had come home it would be different, that only when invited must I come to the parlor, or anywhere, but must stay in the servants' part, and eat with Mrs. Noah and Sarah. I'd just as soon do that. I am no better than they, only, only—the way she told me made me feel as if I were not anybody, is poor. I'm just as good as she, if grandpa is a nigger by her and Mr. Guy. I liked him so much, too, because he was kind to grandpa and to me when I was sick. Yes, I did like him so."

"And how is it now?" Guy asked, wondering who in the world she thought he was. "How is it now?"

"I s'pose it's wicked to feel such things on Sunday but, somehow, what she said keeps making me so bad that I know I hate her, and I guess I hate Mr. Guy."

This was Maddy's answer, spoken deliberately, while she looked up at the young man, who, with a comical expression about his mouth, replied:

"Am Mr. Guy."

"You! you! Oh, I can't bear it! I will die!" and Maddy sprang up as quickly as if feeling an electric shock.

But Guy's arm was interposed to stop her, and Guy's arm held her back, while he asked her where she was going.

"Anywhere out of sight where you can never see me more," Maddy sobbed vehemently. "It is bad enough to have you think me a fool, as you must; but now, oh, what do you think of me?"

"Nothing bad, I assure you," Guy said, still holding her wrist to keep her there. "I supposed you knew who I was, but as you did not, I forgive you for hating me so cordially. If you thought I sanctioned what Mrs. Remington has said to you, you had cause to dislike me, but, Miss Clyde, this is the first intimation I have had that you were to be treated other than as a lady. I am master of Alkenskide, not Mrs. Agnes, who shall be made to understand it."

"Oh, please don't quarrel about me. Let me go home," Maddy cried, feeling, at that moment, more averse to leaving Alkenskide than she could have thought it possible.

"We shall not quarrel; but I shall have my way; meanwhile go to your room and stay there until told that I have sent for you."

They went to the house together, but separated in the hall; Maddy repairing to her room, while Guy sought Mrs. Agnes. The moment she saw his face she knew a storm was coming, but was not prepared for the biting sarcasm and bitter reproaches heaped upon her by one, who, when roused, was a perfect hurricane.

Maybe she had forgotten what she was when his father married her, he said, but he had not, and he remembered well the wonder expressed by many that his father should stoop to marry a poor school teacher. "Yes, that's what you were, madam, much as you despise Maddy Clyde for being a governess; you were once yourself, and before that time mercy knows what you were—a hired girl, perhaps—your present airs would seem to warrant as much!"

Guy failed to note the effect his last words had on Agnes, who turned livid with rage and terror, but smothering her wrath, said beseechingly:

"Pray, Guy, do not be angry; I know I am foolish about some things, and proud people who 'come up,' as you say, always are, I guess. I know that marrying your father made me what I am, but everybody does not know it, and it is not necessary they should. I don't remember exactly what I did say to this Clyde girl, but I thought it would be pleasanter for you, pleasant for us all, not to have her always around; it seems she has presided at the table when Dr. Holbrook was here to tea, and even you can't think that quite right."

"I don't know why," and at mention of Dr. Holbrook Guy's temper burst out again. "Agnes,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 27.)



Points to Remember

- Always write on one side of the paper only and leave space between the lines.
- Write recipes, hints and requests on separate paper instead of including them in the letters.
- Mail all letters at least THREE MONTHS before the issue for which they are intended.
- Always give your correct name and address, as no letter will be published excepting over it. This enables the sisters to write directly to each other.
- Do not write us for samples or patterns of the fancy work which have appeared. When publishing any particular piece of work, we give the plainest possible directions for making and usually illustrate it. It is absolutely useless for you to write for more information, or for samples, or patterns of anything unless stated that they can be supplied.
- As it has come to our notice that sisters have been asking certain sums for information and patterns that should have been furnished free, we here give notice that no charge should be made or money asked for any offers of assistance or information which have or will appear in any letters here published; should there be, kindly notify us, and the offender will be denied the further use of these columns. As this department is run solely to afford an opportunity for the mutual exchange of ideas, recipes, and helpful information, we do not intend it to be used by anyone for a commercial purpose.
- Do not send us exchange notices; we have no exchange column, and cannot publish them.
- Do not ask us to publish letters referring to money in any way, such as requesting donations or offering articles for sale. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.
- Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitle you to such a notice. See offer.
- All subscribers are cordially invited to write to this department and all stand an equal chance of having their letters appear, whether they are old or new members. As our space is limited, naturally the most interesting helpful letters are selected.
- Write fully of your views and ideas, yourself and home surroundings, "give as freely as ye receive," but if your first letter does not appear, do not feel utterly discouraged. Remember the old adage, "if at first you don't succeed, try, try again."
- Address all letters for this department to Mrs. WHEELER WILKINSON, care COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

FOR a whole year past Mr. Gannett, our publisher has been collecting material for this household number, forty-eight pages in all. As the title implies, a large portion of the extra matter herein contained, is devoted especially to the care and improvement of the home, inside and out. In other words, devoted to the interests of COMFORT Sisters.

This material has been gathered from reliable sources, is practical and useful, and contains economical and labor-saving methods of doing many kinds of work. In another column will be found an important contribution from Sadie H. Gannett, wife of our publisher, whose interest will be greatly appreciated, and her recipes and rules a valuable asset to our housekeeping.

The time is drawing near when we must begin to think about house-cleaning and renovating, and in this number you will find some very helpful articles under the following headings: "Timely Suggestions for the Spring House-cleaning, Renovating, Etc.," which includes ways of cleaning, sweeping, dusting, care of winter clothing, etc. "About Clothes' Closets," with ideas regarding economy of space, making hangers, utility bag, etc. "About Rugs and Carpets," with suggestions pertaining to making over and care of same, using pieces, etc. "Mantel made from Spools." "Finish and Care of Floors," from which everyone is bound to profit. "In and About the Kitchen," including the making of kitchen furniture and useful suggestions about the work. "Wall Papering," and "Pasting Making." "Cleaning Cellar," Making and hanging "Sash Curtains." Also article on "Exterior of a Modern Home," which will be found of assistance in planning your garden this spring.

Besides the actual directions for doing these various things, the articles contain a large amount of general information.

You will notice the regular fancy work department in this number is unusually large, and includes many new features for home adornment and convenience, one of them being stencil work which is accompanied by detailed instructions.

Already plans are being developed for the 1911 March COMFORT, which it is the intention of our publisher to make larger and better, if possible, than this number, and although twelve months seem a long time ahead, it is none too long to accomplish so great an undertaking, and the use of household articles contributed by COMFORT Sisters will be one of its strongest features.

With this outline of our plans before you, we are going to ask the sisters to work hand-in-hand with us, which means we will be very grateful for your best method of doing any kind of work, descriptions of any home-made furniture or furnishings you may know how to make, or the article itself mailed to us; labor-saving ways of doing work in any part of the house; your favorite recipes, or any helpful suggestions you may have.

As previously stated, we must begin at once on this issue, and the sooner we receive such material as you may be able to send in, the better use we can make of it, and I would suggest that the articles herein referred to, form a basis for ideas of our coming year's work.

Through the freedom of COMFORT'S Sisters' Corner let every home be benefited. Write us your opinion of this number, also, give us your assistance.

We are grateful for a complimentary comment which reaches us from Mrs. Anna L. Warner of Tenn., who writes:

I take four magazines besides COMFORT. If I could only have one, this would be my choice. It is entirely different from any monthly published, because of its genuine desire to promote individual happiness.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

Having been a reader of COMFORT for some time and enjoying the good, interesting stories, and home circle letters from the sisters from all over the country, I have at last begun a pleasing task long promised to myself, that of writing my first letter, or in other words seeking to join COMFORT'S Sisters' Corner and I come with the fondest yearning to become a full-fledged member and trust your doors will not be closed to me. All of the various opinions I find interesting.

Mrs. Mallett. Come again soon and also your friend, Miss Emrich.

I am interested in spiritual growth, and think if one is truly high minded they can be happy doing the meaner drudgeries of life. Washing dishes or hoeing corn are just as compatible with high thinking as playing the piano. We should see only good in everything, even a still mud puddle will reflect God's beautiful sky. But if its surface is rippled it is simply a puddle. So with us, if we are disturbed by every little care and worry, we are ruffled and uneven in spirits instead of calm and peaceful, reflecting the spirit of love. Troubles and trials can be cultivated by dwelling on them, but how much better it is to seek for love, peace and patience. They will bring the best results. I should dearly love to hear from some of the columnists and will answer all. Best love to all in this happy band.

MRS. ELLA HICKMAN, Muddy Branch, Ky.

Mrs. Hickman.—You are most welcome to a place in the COMFORT Sisters' Corner. Your letter will be read with great interest, and a helpful lesson learned of love and harmony with one's self. We are glad COMFORT has given you so much enjoyment.

DEAR FRIENDS:

I wonder if the telepathic wave has wandered to this far-off place and prompted me to write to the dear old COMFORT that has been for years my solace and guide in ways of thought, over ninety miles I may say from Nowhere. Moclips, which is surrounded by water on three sides, the Pacific ocean and the Moclips river on three and the wilderness on the other. This time of the year, our surroundings are gloomy, the sky overcast and dark, but we are told that it is not always so, and that in the festive season it is a resort of delight to the wayward and philosophical, however, happiness is a condition dependent upon mental rest more than circumstances and a person may be happy anywhere if able to control mental suggestion and influence. The Woman's Improvement Club is the life of this little village by the sea. It is what is needed everywhere. It cuts out all disputes and all scolding and gossip. We get nothing but good and pleasure from it. Its main object is to make conditions better and create sunshine in the heart when it is absent from the firmament about five months in the year. Clothes that put a distance between you and other people are not tolerated in the Woman's Improvement Club, Mrs. M. E. OADES, Moclips, Wash.

"Mrs. Oades.—Your letter telling us about 'The Woman's Improvement Club' is a genuine treat, teaching a great lesson in refinement and womanliness. In 'this little village by the sea' you certainly have found what is best in life—the art of living for all that stands for sincerity. Please write again soon, telling us more of your club work and how many of you members are COMFORT sisters, and please accept COMFORT'S greetings to 'The Woman's Improvement Club.'"

DEAR COMFORT READERS:

I have always wanted to write to this corner but I knew my letter wouldn't be of great value. I am only a young girl of fourteen years. Height five feet and four inches. But I have taken a mother's place in the home for nearly two years. My mother was sick in bed for nearly two years before she died and couldn't do anything. She had an operation and the doctors said she had cancer and could not be helped. She came home again and then had to lie in bed for two months, and she just had to starve as she couldn't eat anything. It was something awful. My father and I took care of her, we had to lift her and feed her and so on like a child, and oh, how glad she was to go home. She said she saw the Saviour and her sins were forgiven, and I know she died happy, and now ever since and when she was sick I have had to do all the housework; it seems quite easy now, but at first it was very hard. I have one little sister at home and one married and two big brothers and one small one, they go to school but I can't go any more. Dear girls who have your mothers be thankful. Oh, how many things I would do for mother now if I but had her.

I would very much like to hear from some of the sisters. This dear corner helps me a whole lot.

MARGARET WOLFF, Java, S. Dak.

P. S. To hold the pillow shams on the iron bedstead sew hooks on a tape four or five inches apart, using strong tape and large skirt hooks. Baste this tape on the top of the sham and hook the sham to a string which is drawn across the head of the bedstead at the proper height. The shams can be readily taken off and put on and when laundried the tape can be ripped off.

MARGARET WOLFF.

Margaret Wolff.—Your letter is most welcome, and will be of great interest to the sisters. The place you have filled of both mother and sister reveals a very lovely nature. These have been hard years I am sure, but go on with the same steadfast purpose, and all will be well in the end. Now just a bit of advice. Do your work systematically, that is, assign certain work for each day of the week. Make a study of saving your strength. Often girls of your age if quite strong will do too heavy work, and until too late will be unconscious of overdoing. Always be even tempered, and amid the trials which come to all, think twice before you speak. This will strengthen your character, give you great self control and make you of untold value to those about you. Your excellent method of fastening shams is most acceptable and tells me you are a careful little housekeeper. I shall be pleased to hear from you again, Margaret.

ONLY TWO MORE MONTHS to win cash prizes in COMFORT'S great prize competition. Big prizes may be won by beginners this month.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Can I come in for a while and chat with you all? I have been a reader of COMFORT for a long time and I find the sisters' letters all so helpful and interesting, but I don't know of anything that would help anyone. I have two children, both boys, one four years, and baby one year.

We are poor and have to make every cent go as far as it will. My husband works in a sawmill and has only one hand, his left arm being off above his elbow.

We want to try farming, another year so I would like to hear from some of the sisters who live in good farming districts. This part of Louisiana is not good for any crop but cotton or rice, and the ball weevil is here so we can't raise cotton. I don't want to stay here because there are no white people, all negroes. I only have one neighbor. Just one big plantation after another for miles and miles and no one but a white agent to superintend the work.

Wishing you all every blessing God can give, I remain your sister.

MRS. WILLIE SANDERSON, Newellton, La.

Mrs. Sanderson.—We are very glad that COMFORT has proven so helpful to you in your isolation. I sincerely hope you and your husband will find the right location and that brighter days are before you.

DEAR FRIENDS:

I have been a subscriber to COMFORT for some time, and I wish to express my appreciation of this good paper by these few lines:

Loved companion, dear old COMFORT! Useful, truthful, bright and cheery, Beaming sunshine on its readers, Solace to the sick and weary, COMFORT'S name was rightly given, It helps to make an earthly heaven.

Stories good and hints on dressing, Fancy work for dame and maid, Games and puzzles keep you guessing, Turn your thoughts from fret and worry.

Letters, too, from sisters, consoling, Helping in the sunshine work, Sympathizing friends by dozens, Oh! the blessing that they are.

Who is there that these pages reads? Without aspiring to nobler deeds? In my long life, most fourscore years, I've seen my share of grief and tears, God help each one of COMFORT'S band, To cheer some corner of this land.

MRS. M. HUMPHREY, Kenedell, Texas.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I am a new subscriber of COMFORT and have been a reader for a long time. My sister takes the paper and has always kept the numbers until she got several and then sent them to me. I have always been an interested reader of COMFORT and always enjoyed the Sisters' Corner, but never have ventured to write or express an opinion in anyway until I read a letter on how to preserve a wife written by Mrs. J. V. Mix. Now I don't quite agree with her on this subject. Of course the preserving part is all right, but she says, "Be careful in your selection—choosing only such as have been reared in good Christian homes." Not mentioning thousands of other girls I take myself as an example of one who had no home or no opportunity for anything but hard work and hard words until I was hardened into believing there was no such thing as Christianity. Of course I feel differently about it

Sure —

That one word sums up the advantages of buying Uneeda Biscuit.

You're sure of their quality—sure of their flavor—sure of their goodness—sure of their cleanness and freshness. Be sure to say

Uneeda Biscuit

(Never sold in bulk)

5¢ a Package.

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

now, but in self defense of myself and only sister I want to say I believe we make as good wives as the majority of the so-called Christians, although I know there are many true Christians. But girls who are reared in Christian homes are not always Christians. I have been married four months and have a good husband, although he is a poor man. I have the care of two little nieces, one of five, the baby is two years old. I have had all the care of them for the past two years and when I married I brought them with me. Their mother lost her mind at the birth of the baby, having had child-bed fever. And if the time ever comes when she can take care of them I will gladly give them up, though it will be like giving up my own. They are as dear to me as they possibly could be.

I was born and reared in the good old state of Kansas, and sometimes it gets rather lonesome here as I am a stranger and I would be pleased to hear from any of the sisters and some of them that have surplus pieces for quilts might send me a few as I am a beginner in making quilts and COMFORT tops. I will return the favor in any way I can. I would like a birthday letter party on the 20th of March and I promise to answer all. With best regards to Mrs. Wilkinson and the sisters, I beg to sign myself, one of the COMFORT'S sisters.

MRS. MAYME HUNT, Henetta, Mo.

Mrs. Mayme Hunt.—I am pleased that after having the use of your sister's COMFORTS for so long a time, that you consider it merits your independent subscription. You will find them invaluable for references, as one cannot remember all they read. Allow me to say please, that I greatly admire your splendid courage. Some of the finest men and women our country has ever produced were self-made. To accomplish all you have and are doing, entitles you to unbounded credit, and which you are sure to receive. You are always welcome.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I have long been a silent reader and dear lover of COMFORT and now instead of bringing you something helpful I come to you for help, for sympathy and prayer to God for a sad, lonely, heart-broken mother. For the angels came last July and carried my precious baby boy aged thirteen, to that sweet land of rest where there's no typhoid meningitis (for that was his malady), no burning fevers, sorrow, pain or death. A short time previous to his death he said he was going to die and go to heaven, and finally when almost over the dark river he faintly uttered "mamma" and in a few moments his dear, sweet spirit had flown, leaving mamma, papa and our only child a boy of sixteen, sad and lonely. With a sweet smile on his beautiful face he laid him away, kind friends banking lovely flowers above his little grave.

Dear sisters, I tried so hard to be willing to give my baby up when I saw barely a ray of hope, never doubting God's wisdom or authority in doing as he willed with His own, but with all a mother's love I clung to him, and would have died with him rather than live without him. My Bible tells me "all things work together for good to them that love the Lord." I feel sure I love God for manifold reasons, but why my bright boy should have been taken from me in the springtime of his youth I fail to understand, just at a time when he was more pleasure to me, if possible, than ever before so romping, joyous and full of life and fun, always so interested in mamma and mamma's household affairs, as well as everything on and about the farm. It seems the very essence of my life has gone out and how can I live? Nothing can ever be the same to me, the rustle of autumn leaves were never so sad to me, even the bright sunshine, the singing birds and blooming flowers have lost much of their sweetness for me, because my baby is gone.

Jesus said: "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Oh, Heavenly Father rest from this heart-ache, this poor griefed and troubled spirit is what I crave. I thought I was in sympathy with all you mothers whose dear children had gone on before to that better land, but indeed I knew so little how to sympathize with you until the death angel took away my precious boy. Sisters pray for me that I bear my sorrow with Christian patience and humility.

May God bless Uncle Charlie and all afflicted ones. I, myself, have been in poor health for a long time, especially since the death of our baby and know from experience the trial of suffering. COMFORT is a great help to me. I do not allow one of them to be torn up. Since dear Leroy died I've looked over the Sisters' Corner of back numbers and find many

mothers sad and lonely for their dear little ones whom God has called home. May the Good Shepherd lead us gently while we travel this vale of sorrow. Best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson, Uncle Charlie and COMFORT Sisters. Letters from any of the sisters would be appreciated.

MRS. FANNIE HENLEY, Whiteville, E. D. 4, Tenn.

Mrs. Fannie Henley.—I extend to you my deep and sincere sympathy, with a prayer that in your great love for the living, you will find peace and comfort. How beautiful to think of this perfect life to which no sorrow had come, and that in the parting it was "Mamma" that gave him light. May the loving bond that led you to write COMFORT Sisters for help in your great sorrow be strengthened by the sympathetic expressions which you will receive.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I have long contemplated writing to the Sisters' Corner, but deferred, thinking I did not feel competent to take up any of its valuable space. But at last I come with some hints, also a request, and to thank the sisters for the help I have derived from the many recipes and suggestions they have so kindly contributed.

Do the sisters know that ginger and lard applied to a child's chest and covered with a piece of dannel is a sure cure for colds; it is better than turpentine. Also that a teaspoonful of warmed vaseline is good for croup.

For those who know that sage does not agree with them try using parsley in dressings and soups.

I am always interested in the letters relative to the bringing up of children, for I have a little boy of five, also a little blue-eyed girl of two. They are very dear to me. Now just a word about the husbands. How many women who claim marriage is a failure and their husbands' side of the case. Oftentimes he is as much disappointed as they are, but men are more inclined to bear their troubles silently as far as outsiders are concerned, while too often women feel that the world is entitled to know of their troubles. I do not want to be unjust to my own sex, but is it not so? Neither men nor women are perfect, but do you not think women are apt to make more fuss over a man's imperfections than vice versa?

In every home there is some friction, and many

A BIG SURPRISE for you in April COMFORT where you read the conclusion of the April Fool Story and learn the contents of that little box. Don't miss it. Renew for 2 years now.

Little squabbles about unimportant matters often lead to tears and perhaps the divorce courts. If these quarrels were avoided by one or both, and each was always ready to forgive and forget and also not to seek sympathy from a third party much unhappiness could be avoided. I for one am always very glad when I read a letter from the wife of "one of the best husbands in the world," for I feel that he is appreciated. Dear COMFORT sisters, our first duty is to make happy homes and second to this, at present at least, comes outside matters.

Mrs. Mallett. Miss Emrich's letter to you certainly deserved a place in our corner, thought is broadening, ideas changing. How true it is that nothing ever remains the same but God. He is the same yesterday, today and forever, it is simply that our view point changes. We know so very little but we can have that child-like unquestioning faith that all will be well, and also charity for each and everyone who is struggling upward though they may not see, think or feel as we do. I think it is beautiful that we all can come to this corner and have the pleasant exchange of ideas. As we live we learn. Will the sisters kindly remember my dear mother, Mrs. Edgar Leach, Forbes, Mo., on her sixty-fourth birthday, the 2nd of March or later, with letters, cards, flower seeds and silk pieces. I will try to return all favors.

MRS. MARY CURTIS, Graham, Mo.

"I would be true, for there are those who trust me, I would be pure, for there are those who can, I would be strong, for there is much to suffer, I would be brave, for there is much to dare."

I would be friend of all—the foe, the friendless, I would be giving and forget the gift, I would be humble, for I know my weakness, I would look up, and laugh, and love, and lift."

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

It has been quite a while since I visited this dear corner so I venture in again, taking this way of thanking those who sent me letters or cards. I received so many it was quite impossible to answer all, though you will never know how much pleasure

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)

LOOK! UP GOES THE PRICE OF ALL MAGAZINES, COMFORT with the rest, if Congress raises the postage rate as proposed by the President. Renew 2 years for only 30 cents, now, and hurry up that subscription club you are raising. Rates are likely to double up on short notice, if Congress makes us pay four or five times as much postage.

AN UNWILLING BRIDE

Or, The Heart's Rebellion

By Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Captain Henry Rock, a man of ungovernable temper, after a wild life, with many adventures, returns to his old home Elmslea. At fifty he marries his cousin, Martha Morley, to whom he is betrothed many years before. He presents to his friends Dr. Dolor and wishes his niece, Amy Lane, to marry him. She marries Lieutenant Waller Brook against her uncle's wishes and he refuses to see her at Elmslea again. He invites his niece, Mrs. Lambert, and her daughter Elva to live with him. Mischief lurks in every movement and Elva will not try to cut Amy out. Her mother warns her she will spoil her fortune. Captain Rock resolves to keep a strict watch over Elva. Six months pass and Mrs. Rock receives a letter with a strange signature—Clemence Moore—Amy is very ill and Mrs. Rock hastens to see her. She is left a widow—her husband is killed in a duel. He leaves his wife with his sister by marriage. Waller Brook's father marries Clemence Moore's mother. Amy and Clemence return to England. Mrs. Rock promises a better home for Amy. Going home she finds her husband in a rage, and he refuses to assist Amy. If this scene is ever repeated she declares her intention to separate. She provides for Amy and settles an annuity upon her. The captain's reform makes life at Elmslea more comfortable.

A little girl is born to Amy Brook; she is named Isa. In the absence of Captain and Mrs. Rock Elva has Tom the "odd" boy load up the cart with the furnishings of Amy's room and drive to Beach Cottage. She meets her cousin, Augustus Simmons, and Tom goes back with his horse. Clemence meets them as they drive up. Amy is pleased. After dinner Gusti proposes they go home. Elva wants the worth of a scolding and refuses to go. Clemence meets Elva's eyes and experiences an unpleasant sensation. Elva insists upon seeing the baby's clothes and the chamber furnishings and then they ride home. The house is locked and dark. Mrs. Rock cautiously opens the door. The captain is frantically angry. Elva is sentenced to a month's imprisonment which is commuted to one day, and Gusti is sent to sea. The affection between the youth of sixteen and the girl of ten gives Captain Rock uneasiness.

Five years later Clemence Moore, standing in front of Beach Cottage, is startled by the appearance of a young woman, head bare and feet bare and bleeding. Clemence tries to get the poor creature to go in. She will not, and begs Clemence not to weep for her but herself and implores her never to love. Amy recognizes in her an old schoolmate Nanny Larcum, the bride of Lemuel Norris. Her father and husband are murdered and her home burned before her eyes, and reason flees. Nanny is released from an asylum and becomes the care of her cousin, Ernest Brent, lately returned from Germany. Miss Peggy Long, the village post-mistress arrives.

CHAPTER VIII. (CONTINUED.)

"YOU have the sweetest place and the finest sea-view here, Mrs. Brook—but that is not what I was going to say. I was going to tell you that I hadn't heard from you for so long, that I thought I must take an airy ride this morning and spend the day with you. And I thought you'd like to hear about your old partner at the dancing-school, young Mr. Brent, a coming back—la, yes, to be sure; we had almost all of us forgotten him, leastwise I had. And then Miss Clemence," she said, as she returned to her place at the table, "I just thought I would bring over that muslin for the collars and cuffs you were so good as to say you would make for me."

"Yes, I am glad you have brought them, Miss Peggy," said Clemence in her cheerful tone.

"I hope you are not busy, my dear?"

"Oh! I'm always busy, Miss Peggy; I shall find time to finish your work this week."

"I'm sure it is very good of you, Miss Clemence, to sew for me for nothing; when—"

"Oh, pray don't speak of it, Miss Peggy."

"But, my dear, I must say, I never saw anybody like you; if anybody's too old to sew, and too poor to put it out, it is Miss Clemence who will do it for kindness; and if anybody is sick it is 'Miss Clemence' who is sent for to nurse them; and if any poor, ignorant laborers have friends off at a distance they want to hear from, it is 'Miss Clemence' who writes all their letters."

"But Miss Peggy, what of it? It is a real happiness to me, and I think it is right to find as well to make all the happiness we can."

"Indeed I often try to remember what the neighborhood did, before you came in to it, and I wonder what we should all do if you were to be taken away from us."

"I'm not likely to be taken away, Miss Peggy; and if I were to die or depart, no doubt Heaven would provide you with a substitute."

"I don't know where one would be got then, I'm sure, for I know everybody thinks there's not your equal to be found. And 's for me, Miss Clemence, I should really think you were a saint if you didn't laugh so much."

"Do eat your breakfast, Miss Peggy, and let me eat mine—for if you will flatter me so much, I shall have to compliment you, and then my coffee will get cold."

Mott, who stood at the fire, making toast and listening to the talk now looked askant over her shoulder, and grumbled audibly:

"Why in the enemy's name don't the old creery let her victuals stop her mouth? For every precious word that comes out of it is deceit. Keeping the table standing in the middle of the floor until ten o'clock and me with my day's work to do!"

When they arose from breakfast and the room was tidied up, Miss Peggy opened her budget and gave them all the news of the month. But in that which concerned Ernest Brent alone was Amy interested. Of the five years which Mr. Brent had been absent, three had been spent at the German University where he graduated with the highest honors; eighteen months had been passed in travels through Europe, Asia and Africa, and the last year had been spent in the best circles of Paris. He had been back to his native place about three weeks. Since the death of Nanny Norris's old guardian, the Lord Chancellor had appointed him sole trustee of her property, and guardian of her person. As soon as he received this power, he had gone to the asylum, and hearing her pronounced incurable, though harmless, had brought her to his own house, and had hired a skillful, attentive nurse to wait upon her.

"You never saw such kindness and compassion, Miss Clemence, except in yourself. I do declare that his manner to that poor unfortunate is as delicate, as reverential and devoted as if she were the most accomplished and enviable lady in the land, and more so, Miss Clemence, more so!"

"I can well believe it! He looks like that!" said the beautiful girl, her face blushing, and her eyes filling with generous sympathy.

In truth for good or evil, the fate of Clemence was sealed! Already, she the humble and penniless girl, unconsciously loved him, the heir of millions.

Among the poor and needy, Clemence was a queen—a queen by reason of her matchless beauty, and her royal bounty—a bounty not of money but of help. The quaint, old village post-mistress had described her aright. But what would this avail her loving Ernest Brent? Would it win his love? Ah, beautiful Clemence, may angels guard your happiness.

CHAPTER IX.

On the afternoon of the same day spent by Miss Peggy Long at Beach Cottage, the family at Elmslea were assembled in the broad hall, their favorite resort in warm weather.

Five years had made very little alteration here, excepting in the case of Elva, who had grown up to be the most enchanting sprite that ever bewitched the hearts of men. She was

slight, agile, graceful; clustering curls of gold encircled her forehead; fun and frolic sparkled up from the bright blue eyes, whose flashing light flew, bird-like, everywhere, but rested nowhere. She seemed even less human and irresponsible than when a child. She only seemed so—under all that levity there was a heart. Little food or cultivation had it had in all its life.

For who had been Elva's educators? First, there was the captain, with his alternations of blustering wrath and foolish fondness, giving way to his anger, or indulging his love, without the slightest regard to the effect produced upon his young ward—too often abusing her for something really admirable in her nature—and quite as frequently praising her for something proportionately reprehensible in her conduct.

Next, there was the dark, and solemn, and fanatical Dr. Dolor, her destined bridegroom, who really and truly loved the child, and conscientiously did the very best he could for her mental and moral welfare.

Elva rewarded his serious efforts with laughter, and flattered him with the pet names of Hobgoblin, Ghoul, Gnome, Oger, etc. Yet she did not dislike her solemn suitor—she never had taken the matter so seriously as that! And he on his part bore her eccentricities with matchless patience, for he loved her with a passion that increased with ripening years.

And then there was her mother, who really was the least important of Elva's teachers. Fear was the key-note of Mrs. Lambert's character—the key-stone in the arch of her religious faith. She feared everything; the opinion of the world, the unfaithfulness of friends, reverses of fortune, pain, sickness, sorrow, want, labor! Her worldly wisdom was of the same character, governed by the same motives, fear and self-interest.

"Whatever you do, my dear, you must please your uncle and Dr. Dolor—never mind your aunt. But your uncle, my dear, you must please your uncle, and win Dr. Dolor too, for he never

In these five past years, Gusti had been home once. He had been received with unbounded joy by his child-friend; had brought her the outgrown suit of uniform; had spent several months at Elmslea, and renewed his old delightful intimacy with its little heiress presumptive, and at length had gone to sea again for another three years' cruise.

And it must be confessed that Elva had found the second parting more grievous than the first. And this time Gusti had fully shared her sorrow. He had been absent a year, when, upon this evening, we find the family assembled in the spacious hall.

The captain was very much the same as when first presented to the reader. But he was suffering from the gout that frequently confined him to his room.

On this especial evening the old soldier was so much better as to be able to come down into the hall and lie upon the couch. Mrs. Rock sat upon one end of it. They were discussing the one exciting topic of the neighborhood, the return of Ernest Brent.

"If he had been guided by me," said the captain, "he never would have gone into foreign parts first. I think the British Isles quite extensive enough for any young man's ambition."

"Was it extensive enough for yours, uncle, when you went away for twenty years?"

"Where is my crutch, or the boot-jack? Is there nothing to throw at her?"

"Can't you throw a repartee, uncle?"

"Silence, Minx! Will nobody take that girl away from me?"

"Yes, dear uncle, any of the young gentlemen about Brighton will gladly do so!"

"Set fire to the young men about Brighton!"

"All, then, Ernest Brent will!"

"Devil fly away with Ernest Brent! He and all the rest are not worth Dolor's little finger!"

"Ah! but, uncle, Dolor is so emphatically dolo-

ous!"

"As, but Wasp! he is a very fine fellow, besides being my friend!"

"OH, HEAVEN! UNCLE! WAKE UP!" SHE CRIED.



FORGETTING GOUT, LAMENESS, LEG AND ALL, HE BORE HER DOWN THE CREAKING HEATED STAIRS.

"Now, that is a most reasonable reason for liking him!"

"Yes, but if I make you marry him—"

"Make-me-marry-him!"

"Yes, I say if you do, I'll give Elmslea into the bargain!"

"Would you? Ha! ha! ha! Why, uncle! that would be heaping wrong upon wrong! Why, uncle! I don't like Elmslea any better than I do the professor! I would no more live in it than I would live with him! And I wouldn't take the haunted old place in fee-simple, much less with the incumbrance of that Ghoul!"

"Ghoul! Have you eyes in your head? Do you recognize a handsome man when you see one?"

"Is Dolor handsome, uncle? I really did not know it! However, people's tastes vary in the matter of beauty—now my taste differs totally from yours. I never could think your pet Ogie beautiful!"

"There it is again! Girls are the most infernal calamity a man can be troubled with! Now, I suppose you'll go making yourself a fool about him!"

"Make myself a fool? No indeed, uncle! One is enough of that class in any family!"

"What do you mean by that, Pepperpot?"

"Nothing, sir," said Elva, with much meekness.

"Well! whatever you mean, Minx, I warn you not to fall in love with Ernest Brent because he is handsome, for Dolor is just as handsome as he is, and handsomer, too, besides being my friend."

"I didn't know that we were to choose people by their good looks, and I am very sure, my dear aunt, here, never chose her husband for his beauty."

"Well if she didn't, Saucebox, she chose him for his bravery, which is a better quality!"

"What a pity it is you can't marry me yourself, uncle!"

"I'd like to brain you!" ejaculated the old soldier, feeling about and finding nothing but his tobacco-box, he sent it flying at her. Elva dodged, and ran away laughing.

"Come back here, Minx! I want to talk to you!" he said.

"Disarm him, aunt—take away his pipe, and his spectacles, and his snuff-box, and his pocket-book (I don't think he will throw his watch at me) and everything he can make a missile of!"

"Come back here, you little imp! Don't you see I've got nothing?"

Elva came back, still laughing, and took her seat at her uncle's feet.

"I want to talk to you, you little aggravation! Have you no ambition? Shouldn't you like to be the wife of a great man? Now, Dolor is a big, a great man yet!"

"Yes, if he grows stout with years! He 'stands high' in the community now!"

"You look as if you were making fun, and I believe you are! I tell you, Professor Dolor is destined to make his mark in the world!"

"Of course, if he leaves his tracks in the mud."

"Oh! Oh, dear! Whatever shall I do with this—this—this—Don't you know, you minx, that

Dr. Dolor will most probably be the next Principal of Herschell College?"

Elva put her finger upon her chin, and cast her eyes down in demure reflection—then she soberly arose, walked up to the hat-rack, and standing before the little glass inserted there, deliberately contemplated herself for several minutes. Then as soberly she walked back and resumed her seat, saying:

"It won't do, uncle! I don't look like it, no, not one bit!"

"Don't be too humble, Miss Lambert! For whether you really deserve it or not, you will have that 'greatness thrust' upon you."

"Try me! Dare to try me!"

Up to this time the bantering conflict had been carried on good-humoredly, but now there was danger of the antagonists getting out of temper, and the sham quarrel becoming a real one, when Mrs. Rock interfered by changing the subject.

They lingered long in the hall that evening, longer than usual. That very night the old mansion, that had withstood the storms of more than two hundred winters, was burned to the ground.

The fire broke out in the kitchen. It had been left to Tom to cover up the brands on the kitchen hearth. It is true that Betty, who was waiting on her master at his bedside, had mockingly told Tom to be sure and leave a coal sticking to the broom when he swept the ashes up. But could Tom have been such a fool as to take her at her word? Betty was not certain, and upon the whole, she thought it best not to investigate the matter too closely.

Elva had gone to her room, and feeling, for the first time in her life, some little uneasiness about her uncle's "whim" of wedding her to Dolor, she had walked about the floor for some time in much restlessness of mind and body; then she went to a wardrobe, and took out Gusti's treasured first uniform, and held it up before her. Smiling to herself, and tossing her charming head, as at some invisible foe, she said:

"Yes, indeed! I should so like to see him make me marry anybody else but Gusti!"

She pressed the cloth up to her face, and put it away, and still smiling to herself, retired to rest, to dream of her dear playmate.

She dreamed of being in his ship on the open sea; and then she thought the ship took fire, and saw, and heard, and felt the great panic and horror that ensued.

She woke in a terrible fright. A part of her dream was true! Her chamber was filled with smoke and the house was chaotic with noise and confusion, and resounded with cries of "Fire! Fire!" everywhere. What happened next passed with the swiftness of lightning. She jumped out of bed, seized a woollen shawl, and wrapped it around her head, and not forgetting her most cherished treasure, Gusti's suit of uniform, snatched it from the wardrobe and fled out of the room, through all the passages, and down all the stairs, and out by the great hall, that was all in flames, until she reached the lawn, where the panic-stricken and nearly idiotic household were assembled, weeping, moaning, and wringing their hands, while they gazed upon the work of destruction before them in impotent despair!

Elva looked all around upon the group, each figure of which glared redly in the light of the flames. All were present—all but the captain!

Elva ran through the crowd looking for him in all directions.

"Where is uncle, Oh! where is uncle?" she exclaimed, running wildly about, and finally going up to Mrs. Rock, who, in her night-dresses, stood looking the statue of consternation!

Elva shook her arm.

"Aunt! Aunt! Where is uncle?"

"Where? Here, somewhere. I saw him run out before me."

"No, you didn't! you mistook somebody else for him. Oh, Heaven! he is in the burning house!—he is in the house!"

"Oh, he is in the house, he is in the house!" echoed Mrs. Rock, now roused from her panic, and wringing her hands in the most acute distress. "Oh, will nobody save him! Will nobody save him!"

It was too late. Captain Rock was in the burning mansion, in his bed-chamber, near the top of the house, fast asleep!

"Good heaven! Will no one attempt to save him?" screamed the wife, running wildly from one to the other.

They all gazed on each other, and then in consternation upon the burning building, every window of which was belching flame, while the sound of some falling rafter, or the explosion of some combustible substance, was continually heard. To venture into that blazing house, with its sinking roof and falling rafters, seemed certain death.

"Oh! Heaven of Heavens! will none even try to save him?" cried the distracted woman, wringing her hands in extreme anguish.

"Pray for me, aunt!" exclaimed Elva, and she darted like a bird towards the house, into the passage, and seemed lost in the smoke and flame!

Wrapping the woollen shawl closely about her, and keeping near the floor, she glided swiftly up the stairs, until she reached her uncle's door; it was open, and his room was clearer of smoke than any other.

There he lay in a deep sleep! She sprang to the bedside, seized and shook the arm of the sleeper.

"Uncle! uncle! wake, for Heaven's sake, wake! the house is on fire!"

"Hum-m-m-e" muttered the old man, giving a great heave and plunge, and turning over into a heavier sleep than before.

"Elmslea is in flames! Oh, Heaven! Uncle! wake—wake!" she cried, shaking him frantically.

"Ah! ha! yes; the little rascal is at her tricks again!" he said, laughing in his sleep.

There was no time to be lost—every second was invaluable! He must be instantly roused, and Elva was not fastidious as to the means in doing so.

Leaping upon the bolster behind his great, stupid head, she reached over, and seizing the mass of his gray, grizzled beard, she pulled the wrong way, with all her might, until, roaring with pain, he started up in a fury, and seeing her, exclaimed:

"Oh! you abominable little vixen—is that you? Oh, you outrageous little dare-devil! Won't I send you to a madhouse, and have you put in a straight-jacket till you know how to behave yourself—you abominable little wretch you!"

A sudden thought struck Elva to move him by his affection for herself.

"Uncle, look around you—the house is burning! If you do not rouse yourself, and save your poor little 'wretch,' she must perish in the flames!"

This effectively brought him to his senses—he understood everything. He leaped from the bed, seized a blanket, enveloped her in it, raised her in his arms and forgetting gout, lameness, leg and all, bore her down the creaking, heated stairs, flight after flight, and through the burning passages out of the house, in safety.

Oh, surely the angels had held up that sinking roof, that, as soon as they had passed in safety, fell with an awful crash, sending up new flames to heaven, bearing, as it were, the story of the young girl's heroism.

A shout of joy greeted the captain as he appeared with Elva on the lawn.

But heeding nothing but the burden he bore in his arms, the old soldier strode on until he

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 25.)



LEAGUE RULES:

To be a comfort to one's parents.
To protect the weak and aged.To be kind to dumb animals.
To love our country and protect its flag.

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JANUARY, February, March, a quarter of the year gone already. It's funny to have to say that, for while I am writing I am gazing in a half-bewildered and entirely dazed manner at three huge boxes of Christmas cards, and other Yuletide mail. (Its January 15.) This mail is entirely separate and distinct from the ordinary accumulation which you shower on me through the usual channels. I was so overcome, and so deeply touched by the love and sympathy which you lavished on me so bountifully this last Christmas that I determined to send a personal reply to everyone who wrote me. After writing about two hundred letters and postals I collapsed, and had to send for the doctor. Doc said I had a severe attack of Christmasitis on the brain, and pen and inkitis of the liver. He gave me a box of powders, and told me I was to take one every hour in water. Of course I always believe in obeying the doctor's instructions, so I went down to the Hudson river which flows close by our back-door, broke the ice and stood in the water up to my neck, and swallowed one powder. I was standing in the water half frozen to death when Doc rode by in his buzz wagon, and seeing me in the water yelled: "What the blazes are you doing in that water?" "I am simply carrying out your instructions," I replied, "you told me to take a powder every hour in water." Then Doc ordered me back to bed and had me put in a strait-jacket, and told Maria I was not to write another letter for a month, or he would not be answerable for my life. So I guess I'll have to thank you all through the columns of COMFORT for making the Christmas of 1909 the happiest I have ever known.

COMFORT's boys and girls sent me a turkey, and all the fixings for a glorious feast, and Santa Claus littered my bed with loving remembrances from every State in the Union. On the table by my side were carnations from Oklahoma, and they reached me in excellent condition. As I gazed with a heart full of gratitude, at the many dainty and beautiful expressions of love and affection lavished on my undeserving self by thousands of good souls scattered broadcast all over Uncle Sam's vast domain, I could not but recall the seven successive Christmases I passed in hospitals—the first in 1897. Well do I remember that day. There were twenty-four beds in that big ward, and visitors were grouped around every one but mine. The world had forgotten me, not a soul came near me. I was more utterly alone, more entirely lonesome, than if I had been marooned on a desert island in the middle of the vast Pacific. Christmas, 1898, was just the same. I did not despair however. Something told me there were better days ahead, and I never lost heart. Christmas of 1899 more than made up for all those dreary, desolate, lonely hospital Christmases. It was a day of joyous gladness, laughter, song and feasting, and when the lights were all turned out you may rest assured I did not forget to say a great prayer of thankfulness to that merciful Providence which has given me a happy issue out of all my afflictions (at least all those that count) and brought me to a haven of happiness and content, and given me the love, devotion and friendship of some ten millions of America's best people. Once more then, I thank you all, and especially do I wish to thank all those good souls who got up clubs for my books. That was work that required effort, and though the effort was liberally rewarded, it makes me proud to think that a great deal of love was at the back of that effort, and every effort of that kind tends to lighten my labors, and adds to my comfort—peace of mind and happiness. Thanks and God bless you!

This is our household and home number. You know pretty well what I think about home, for I am constantly dilating and discoursing on that subject in these columns. There should be very little difference between home and heaven. A husband and wife who love one another, well-bred children who love their parents, good health, an income sufficient to supply all reasonable wants, a cozy, neatly furnished house, broad-minded parents who are not slave drivers or misers, and who endeavor to give the children as good a time as possible without pampering or spoiling them; a house in which the golden rule

A LESSON IN FAITH in April COMFORT.
Don't miss it. Don't let your subscription run out.

holds sway, and the Bible is well thumbed; a house full of sunshine, music, good cheer and innocent mirth, this is the ideal home, a home we should all strive for, a home which we have on earth, a home which we love while we are in it, and long for when we are away from it. Happy homes are not so plentiful as they ought to be. We have all the materials for happy homes in this country, but we are not civilized enough, and have not sense enough to use these materials wisely. We have magnificent palaces that cost millions to get together, inhabited by men who take more interest in other men's wives than they do in their own, and base women who would rather fondle a pet dog than a baby, and would drop dead if they had to get their husbands a meal. Men and women gorged with the richest of food, the costliest of wine, dressed in all the latest tomfooleries of fashion, and waited on by hordes of servile flunkies, as though they were superior beings. That's one kind of American home, or apology for a home. On the other hand we have tens of thousands of wretched, unsanitary hovels, where men and women eke out a miserable existence, surrounded by hungry, peevish, anemic, ill-bred children; houses, cabins, dens, hovels and tenements where want and worry are never absent, homes where grim consumption, disease and death reap their richest harvest; homes in which all the finer things of life are swept aside in that grim and terrible never-ceasing struggle for bread, clothing and shelter. That is another kind of home. There you have the two pictures. What we must strive to do is, to wipe out the conditions that create both palace and hovel. Palaces create paupers and anarchists. The strength of a nation lies not in its palaces or its hovels. Its aristocracy or its serfs, but in its comfortable, modest homes, and healthy, upright, manly, God-fearing, plain, sensible citizens. When we have sense enough to devise a social system that will wisely distribute the Creator's bounty to all His creatures, then we shall have neither millionaire nor pauper, palace nor hovel, but millions of modest substantial homes, inhabited by healthy, contented, well-educated, well-bred men and women. Let us all work for the ideal American home. The first step towards it is to give American women a

vote. The woman is the home-keeper, give her a voice in the nation's affairs and the ideal American home will soon come. To the women who don't want to vote let me say this: The country needs, bleeds and suffers for lack of your vote. Whether you want the ballot or not, this will be no vast land filled with ideal homes until you vote. So whether you want to vote or not, it's your duty to vote, and it's up to you to do your duty.

It's a fortunate thing for me that I do not wear a hat these days, for I am suffering just now with enlargement of the cranium. You will wonder what has caused my head to swell. I'll tell you. Edwin Markham, America's premier poet, author of "The Man with the Hoe," a poem which made all the world take notice, has been reading "Uncle Charlie's Poems," and in Hearst's American (New York's most widely circulated daily paper), he has been telling the world what he thinks about them. He concludes a very flattering half column review with this remark: "In humorous verse Uncle Charlie is frequently the equal of Eugene Field." Many of you will say: "And who is Eugene Field?" Eugene Field, beloved of all men was America's greatest humorous poet. To have one's name coupled with that of Eugene Field, by America's premier poet, is the greatest honor that could be conferred on almost any writer of verse. So now you know why my head is double its size, and why I am a little happier than I ever was in my life. If you want to bring some sunshine and cheer, fun and laughter into the American home and drive the blues out, get up a club of four yearly subscribers to COMFORT at twenty-five cents a year, and get a copy of the third edition of Uncle Charlie's Poems. Those of you who got the first edition three and a half years ago would hardly recognize it now, so greatly has it been added to and improved. The book is bound in ribbed silk lilac cloth, and contains more laughs than any book of verse in the world. It contains a biographical sketch of the author's life, and among the pictures is one where he is dictating to Maria. Each copy is autographed by the author's very own hand. Forty-eight copies of COMFORT, and a priceless book for an hour's easy work.

Now listen to this: "I am an old man, nearly seventy years old. During my life I have taught music for forty years. Have hundreds of pieces of music in my house, among them Uncle Charlie's song, 'When the Harvest Moon Was Shining,' and can candidly say this piece equals some of Foster's gems, such as 'Old Kentucky Home.'" In the years to come, Uncle Charlie will be acknowledged as Foster is now a classical composer. All those subscribers to COMFORT who profess to love Uncle Charlie should show their esteem for him as I have done and get two yearly subscribers to COMFORT and get Uncle Charlie's Song Book. Yours truly, David Wiedman, Charlotte, W. Va.

Thank you, Mr. Wiedman, for your endorsement of my song book. I am very proud of your letter, coming as it does from a man who has taught music for forty years. This song book contains twenty-eight gems of mirth, melody and sentiment. If you could not duplicate this book, you would not part with it for any money. It contains love ballads, story ballads, novelty songs, comic songs, coon and sacred songs—there is nothing to equal it in the wide world. The songs are printed on the best of paper, the cover is red and yellow, and on it appear four pictures of Uncle Charlie in various stages of his career, pictures equal to photographs. The book is about the size of a copy of COMFORT as far as height and width are concerned, and weighs half a pound. A club of two yearly subscriptions secures it. Send in a club of six subscriptions and the two books are yours. These subscriptions toward COMFORT's money prizes. All that makes perfect books have gone into the construction of these two volumes. You are missing half your life if you don't secure them.

Don't forget what I told you about sending in a subscription on your birthday to be credited to the wheel-chair fund. We have scores of applications for chairs every month, but alas, how pitifully few of those who need chairs are able to get them. It is useless to apply for chairs unless you send written references from the local postmaster, or physician or minister. Wheel chairs cost money and wheel-chair applicants must be woefully short of brains if they think we are going to hand out these chairs to every Tom, Dick and Harry that asks for them. We are all from Missouri and have to be shown. If you failed to send references when you applied for chairs, send them now or your name will never go on our list. Now for the letters:

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE AND COUSINS:
I wonder what the trouble is with all the down Eastern cousins? I hardly ever see any letters from them. I am nineteen years old, five feet, eight inches tall, weigh one hundred and thirty-five pounds, have an abundance of brown hair, and brown eyes. Girls, how many of you, when going out driving with a young man, ever asked him to uncheck or slacken the check-rein? I think it is a sin the way I see some poor horses going at a break-neck speed with their heads drawn back by the check rein so they can't see where their feet will land, whether in a hole or not; it may make some of the boys angry when you ask them to uncheck the horse's head, but that only shows their real nature, and I refuse to go with them right on the spot. Uncle, I believe you will agree with me on this, and hope that most of the cousins will. And making some pin money now picking cotton. The field is very pretty, it is so white. Uncle Charlie, I know you would enjoy helping me pick. I know we could have some real fun. With a kiss for you and love to all. Your loving niece, LILLIAN LANGSTON. (No. 20,788.)

Lillian, you write a very nice hand. In describing yourself my dear you say you have an abundance of hair and brown eyes. I have often heard of people having an abundance of brown hair, but I never yet heard of anyone who had an abundance of brown eyes. I know lots of people who have four eyes, two real and two artificial. I also knew one poor man who only had one eye that was real, and another one that was glass. I used to room with a glass-eyed man. He was an actor by the way and we were in a road company together. Every night he used to put his glass eye in a glass of water. One night I got out of bed in the dark to get a drink, and by mistake got hold of the glass that had the glass eye in it and before I knew it I

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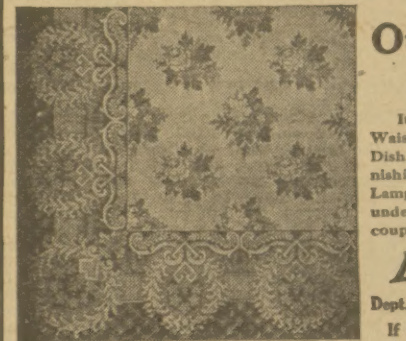
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had swallowed the glass eye. It slipped down easily enough and I went back to bed and slept without the slightest discomfort. In the morning the glass-eyed man was searching everywhere for his missing optic. I got out of bed and helped him. I wish you could have seen us on hands and knees crawling all over the floor looking for that glass eye. Every time I would open my mouth I could hear something rattling inside me like a bullet in an empty tomato can. Then I suddenly remembered that I had swallowed that old glass eye the night before. The glass-eyed man was furious and threatened to have me arrested. That made me hot under the collar, and I told him I'd have him arrested for spying into my internal affairs. I told him it was a breach of etiquette for any man to have one eye rubbing at the inside of another man's stomach. Then he wanted to get a chisel, saw, axe and a few more surgical instruments and open me up and get his eye out of my interior. This operation I objected to as it appeared to me as being liable to subject me to some trifling amount of physical discomfort. Then he wanted me to swallow the bell-boy, tie a rope to his leg and let him dive for it. There was only one bell-boy in the hotel and he was red-headed, and I was afraid if I swallowed him he would set fire to me as he went down. Finally it was decided I should stand on my head and he should swim me with a fence rail till his glass eye rolled out. This we subsequently did, and the sweetest music I ever heard in my life, was when that old glass eye rolled out on the floor. Ever after that when I roomed with a glass-eyed man I made him put his glass eye at night in his pant's pocket, and put his pants under the mattress. I was not going to take any more chances of swallowing that old glass eye. Now Lillian, dear, if you have an abundance of eyes, I hope you will keep them under lock and key at night in some safe place, so that nobody can swallow them. When any of you cousins are short of an eye, or are not satisfied with looking into two lovely orbs at once, I would advise you to write to Lillian. Fancy having an abundance of brown eyes all casting loving glances at you. Two are enough to put a fellow on the blink. Heaven knows what an abundance would do. Check-reins on horses are an abomination. I would like to put a check-rein in the mouths of those who treat horses in this barbarous manner. If I were a horse and hitched up that way I would kick the infernal buggy to pieces before I would move an inch. Lillian, your letter shows you have an abundance of good sense and sympathy as well as eyes. I congratulate you on the stand you have taken on behalf of man's best friend among the dumb beasts.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
I hope you will be pleased to hear from a soldier nephew of yours. I am a sergeant in the 75th Co. C. A. F. stationed at Fort Morgan, Ala. Age twenty-seven. Our barracks are built within fifty yards of the bay of Mobile. Our guns are situated so that they can command the entrance to the bay in peace or war. The Gulf of Mexico is on our rear. This place is healthy, but very much isolated, being thirty-five miles from Mobile, which is the nearest town. Our principal pastime evenings are fishing and boating, and our greatest pleasure and hope is the thought that our time is passing, daily bringing us closer to the end of our enlistment term, so as to get out of here and roam once more around the pleasurable surroundings of home, where we find the schoolhouse, church, the merry laugh of children and the ever endearing presence of the gentler sex, which makes all places pleasing and enjoyable. I would be pleased Uncle Charlie if you would visit Mobile during my stay here. I would meet you, and bring you to Fort Morgan, as I believe you would be interested in looking over our fortifications, and our large guns. The boys would give you a fine welcome, worthy of the principles which you are nobly supporting, pleading the cause of the needy and deserving, as well as bringing about ties of true friendship among many thousands living far apart. I hope Uncle Charlie I have not taken up too much of your time with this letter. I admire COMFORT, its editor and enjoy the many different let-

ters appearing monthly in your paper. I hope the time will come when your principles will extend over the entire world. Sincerely yours, ARTHUR M. MERRILL, Sergeant 75th Co. C. A. C., Fort Morgan, Ala.
P. S. I would be pleased to correspond with any of the cousins.
Arthur, I am always glad to hear from you soldier boys. I get a great many letters from Uncle Sam's boys in blue. Most of them seem dissatisfied with the service and are anxious to get out of it. This is not to be wondered at, as military life is an unnatural one and though it may make a fair profession for the commissioned officer, there is not much of a future in it for the private or non-commissioned man. Unfortunately the world will not disarm, and we shall need soldiers for a few years longer anyway. The military service should be made more attractive. Every chance should be given to a "ranker" to rise to the commissioned ranks and become an officer. To get the best out of a man you must give him something to work for, and strive for, some goal of ambition that will stir the best that is in him. The soldier is not treated as well as he deserves in hardly any country. We wildly cheer the boy in blue as he goes off to war. The band plays, the flags wave and we are ready to take him by the hand and treat him as a brother. When fighting is over and we feel no longer the need of his protection, we are apt to turn the cold shoulder to the man we once proclaimed a hero. The people of the United States should remember the majority of the soldier boys are good fellows belonging to good families and that they are giving some of the best years of their lives to a country which does not appreciate the sacrifice they are making. The soldier should be allowed to dispense with his uniform when off duty, and allowed to live outside barracks and enjoy social life as any other man does. Soldiers should go to business, drill and get through and go home. On foreign duty or during war, things of course would be different. There is nothing gained by keeping men cooped up in barracks. It only forces good men to associate with bad. Irsome barracks duty is what disgusts men with military life. Humanize military life. Give the soldier as good pay as the mechanic. Any man is worthy of good pay who is ready to die for his country whenever called upon. We have an awful nerve to give a man fifty cents a day and expect him to get shot to pieces for a few pitiful pennies. The world will have to treat its soldiers differently very soon or it won't get right soldiers anyway—that would settle war right away. The frightful abyss existing between officers and soldiers should be removed—it's an absurdity in this country. Better pay and better conditions would attract better men to the service, and the souse, bum and loafer would get kicked out. Officers and privates should fraternize. If they did officers would lose conceit, men gain character and discipline would not suffer. Arthur, I am glad to have made your acquaintance. I am sorry I cannot visit Fort Morgan. I hope, dear boy, that you will live to see the day when swords will be turned into plowshares, and birds will build nests in the mouths of your big guns, and those days would come quickly if I had my way you bet your life.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE AND COUSINS:
May a Kansas girl step in and have a little chat with Uncle and all the cousins? Please do not let Billy eat this letter as he seems to have an appetite for my letters.
I live in the eastern part of the great Sunflower state, in Jefferson Co., just outside of the city limits of Rock Creek, and not far from Topeka, the capital of the state. Kansas City is sixty miles east of here, and the Santa Fe Golden State Limited will take you to that city in sixty minutes. So you may note we have fast trains in windy Kansas. Kansas is essentially an agricultural state. The rich, strong

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Quartered-Oak; hand polished. Golden-Oak finish. Compact; drawers very conveniently arranged. Thousands in use. Given with \$10.00 worth of Larkin Products.

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AN EMBARRASSING POSITION FOR PUBLISHERS. Until we know the outcome of the proposition to raise our postage rate, now being considered by Congress, we cannot tell what to do about raising our subscription price; so we have to take the chance of letting you renew or subscribe at the old rate this month. 25 cents for one year; 30 cents for a two-year renewal.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)



\$2.25 FLOWERS FOR WORTH

We send you this grand collection of SEEDS and BULBS for less than the cost of packing and postage, that all may have an opportunity to plant our SUPERIOR STOCK and become one of our yearly customers.

20 Pkts. 4 pkts. Pansy: Red, White, Blue, Striped
Seeds 2 pkts. Carnations: Variegated, White, Purple
 2 pkts. Sweet Peas
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20 Bulbs 1 Begonia, 1 Gladiolus, 1 Hardy Lily, 1 Montebello, 1 Spotted Gladiolus, 2 Gladiolus, 2 Hardy Gladiolus, 1 Tulip, 10 other Choice Bulbs
 The above 20 PKTS. of SEEDS, 20 BULBS, our new color plate catalogue and a FREE RETURN CHECK giving you your money back will be sent you by return mail for \$2.25.
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4 SEED WONDERS

We have bought direct from Mr. Luther Burbank seed of his Giant Blackberry. Vines will trail on an arbor or any support from 25 to 50 ft. producing enormous clusters over a foot long, berries large, exquisite flavor. Garden Huckleberries, grow from seed in 4 months, about 2 feet high, yield great masses of rich fruit, excellent to cook, can and preserve.

Ground Almonds are nuts of delicious almond flavor for eating and will produce a crop in 4 months from planting. One nut planted will grow 100 to 200 nuts.

Drought Proof Potato is a wonder, resists drought and blight everywhere. Big yields, potatoes large, white, of best quality.

For only 5c. for packing, mailing, etc., we will send trial packet each of the above 4 novelties and 10 Drought Proof Potato Eyes, carefully packed from frost with instructions how to keep for planting, and a 10c. Due Bill good for a 10c. selection from our 12 colored plate 1910 Seed Catalog, sent free. Order today.

Mills Seed House, Box 75, Rose Hill, N. Y.

Don't Throw It Away. Does Your Granite Dish or Hot Water Bag Leak?

USE MENDETS

They mend all leaks in all utensils—tin, brass, copper, granite, hot water bags, etc. No solder, cement or rivets. Any one can use them; it's as easy as two million in use. Send for sample pkg. 10c. Complete pkg. assorted sizes, 25c. postpaid. Agents wanted. Collette Mfg. Co., Box 108, Amsterdam, N. Y.

SEEDS GIVEN AWAY

We are giving away seeds of these 12 kinds as Free trial samples to introduce to new customers, to test our seeds, which will produce bushels of Vegetables, Fruits and Flowers worth many dollars.

- 1 pkg. Radish, Giant Japan, largest in world, 15 to 20 lbs.
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- 1 pkg. Lettuce, All Summer, good all season, Early or late.
- 1 pkg. Pop Corn, Baby Golden small, 4 to 8 ears on stalk.
- 1 pkt. Sweet Corn, North Pole, earliest known.
- 1 pkt. Tomato Peach, grows rapid, looks like peaches.
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- 1 pkt. Chinese Lantern Plant, fruits like Chin. lanterns.
- 1 pkt. Giant Raspberry—Blackberry, large, grows from seed.
- 1 pkg. Coffee Berry, a good substitute for coffee (seed).
- 1 pkg. Strawberry, Large French, grows from seed.
- 1 pkg. Sweet Peas, 10 kinds in gorgeous mixture.

These 12 sample Lots growing in your garden, will be your delight to show and surprise your neighbors, and we will mail all 12 pkgs. in a Coupon Envelope for 6c. postage and packing, and this Coupon Envelope when supplied will be accepted as 10c. payment on anything in our catalog.

1910 Catalog of Seeds, Plants, Fruits, Novelties, with 12 Colored Plates, mailed free with all sample lots.
MILLS SEED CO. Box 400 WASHINGTON, IOWA.

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Easily Made

We start men and women in a profitable business on a small investment. Write quick for prices and Loan Book.

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Send a lock of your hair, and we will mail a 25c. or 22-in. short stem fine human hair switch to match. If you find it a big bargain, remit \$1.50 in ten days, or sell it and get your switch free. Extra shades a little more. Includes 5c. postage. Free beauty book showing latest styles of hair dressing—also high grade hair switches, pompadours, wigs, etc.

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FREE! FREE!

Send one cent in stamps to pay the postage and I will send you, FREE, a sample cake Dr. Scott's Complexion Soap, a food for the skin.

AGENTS WANTED

\$5.50 Sample Outfit FREE.

Dr. Scott's Electric Special Supporting Back Corsets. Cure lame back, nervousness and other troubles. 100 per cent. profit. Write for 32 page Catalog and liberal terms. Est. 1876

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restores gray, streaked or faded hair to its natural color, beauty and softness. Prevents the hair from falling out, promotes its growth, prevents dandruff, and gives the hair a soft, glossy and healthy appearance. It will not stain the scalp, is not sticky or dirty, and is composed of roots, herbs, bark and flowers. Package makes one pint. It will produce the most luxuriant tresses from dry, coarse and wiry hair, and bring back the color it originally was before it turned gray. Package postpaid for 25 cents, or five packages for \$1.00.

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AGENTS DRESS GOODS MAKE CREDIT

Represent a big manufacturer. Easy work. Fine line of Handkerchiefs, etc. Free Samples. Stamp brings particulars. **A DAY**

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Prices. No big city expenses. Prove by getting catalog.

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MAGIC NEEDLES RODS, Goldsmiths, Jewelers, etc., for transmuting metals. No loss of weight under your feet. Guaranteed the best made. Interesting booklet for 2c. stamp.

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P. & M. AGENCY, 24 N. ST., PALMYRA, PA.

Exterior Description Of a Modern Home Made Beautiful Through Perfect Harmony of Color and Design

TWO ambitious school teachers, though possessed of small means, were determined to build them a home. It was in a remote Western town where little attention had thus far been given to things useful as well as artistic and beautiful.

A two-acre lot was selected, and upon this, well in the rear was built a fifteen hundred dollar house, the main part being a story and a half with a one story ell.

Because it was a clapboard structure, and because of its modest dimensions, light colored paint was selected in view of getting the effect of a more spacious set of buildings, realizing that medium and dark colors detract from apparent size. Accordingly, the soft Colonial yellow was used for clapboards, white for trimmings and dark green for blinds, window sashes and doors.

The year following, at the cost of five hundred dollars, a small stable was built to accommodate the two ponies used in traveling to and from the schoolhouse, some five miles distant.

Much attention was given to the floral decorations. The three ell windows to the south, including dining-room and kitchen, were ornamented with window boxes or gardens, made four



CLIMBING NASTURTIUMS MAKE A FRAGRANT SCREEN.

feet long, fourteen inches deep by fourteen inches wide. These were painted white to emphasize the color scheme used in choice of plants. The insides of boxes were also given a coat of paint to preserve the wood. The two dining-room boxes were arranged in view of a protection to the interior from the hot sun. Climbing nasturtiums were planted the entire length of box which grew well over tops of windows, forming a lovely, fragrant screen of green and yellow from early summer to late fall. These were watered each evening, both foliage and roots. At the kitchen window, in line with the dining-room, bright red geraniums were used as a background to a row of candytuft at the outer edge which grew into a beautiful fringe of green and white that trailed well over the side of the box.

Between the kitchen and dining-room windows was located the side entrance, the doorway being framed by a trellis over which grew an evergreen honeysuckle vine, its luxuriant foliage and sweet-scented flowers added not a little to this attractive piece of house gardening.

At the window on opposite side of kitchen was a pretty piece of rustic work. A medium-sized wooden tub had been painted inside, with several auger holes in the bottom for drainage.

To the outside was nailed moss-grown thick bark. An artistic arrangement of rustic lattice work made the foundation upon which the tub was set. Here thrived a rare growth of mint, which furnished many a cooling summer drink, and when gathered and dried, a useful home remedy in winter.

From front steps to street, and from side entrance to stable were neat, painted two inch plank walks, built over cinder beds which prevented weeds from appearing between planks, as well as keeping the underside dry and thus prolonging life of walk.

The driveway from stable to street was hard and substantial, being built of coal ashes and earth. Following the spreading of each load, the drive was wet and rolled, using ashes for the top layer. Weeds do not trouble this driveway, and the edges are kept trim with little labor.

Here on either side grew beds of old-time flowers, which of late years have become so fashionable. Between the drive and flower beds which were eight feet long by three feet wide, was a strip of turf one foot in width. The flowers were uniformly arranged. At either end, bright scarlet peonies were set, and next to these a bunch of pure white ones. Beside these grew honeysuckle, and at the center a mass of larkspur with its wonderful blue bell-shaped flowers, which when properly enriched will grow to a length of twelve inches.

PRETTY PIECE OF RUSTIC WORK.

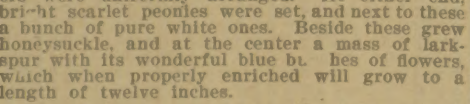
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Growing Sweet Peas for Market

Screening the vegetable garden from the lawn was a twenty foot fence of sweet peas, trained over wire netting. These were planted in sections of solid colors; the dark rich shades at



THE "LITTLE SOLDIERS" ALWAYS ON DUTY.

either end, working toward the center with the lighter colors. These were cut daily and sent to the city where arrangements had previously been made to place them on sale at a corner news-stand.

Each side of the front steps, looking very stately were young evergreens, and beginning here and extending either side of the walk were

box trees, not set in the customary hedge, but two feet apart, each trimmed to nearly resemble a miniature Lombardy poplar. They had the appearance of being "on guard" so military and official did they look, and their owners always lovingly referred to them as "Our little soldiers."

The ledges which outcropped to the west were partly covered by ground ramblers roses, making a beautiful picture.

On the east side, gradually sloping to the south was a vegetable garden, though small in size, it yielded large returns.

March was a busy month for these two industrious women. With a young helper, they started their hot beds, growing a variety of vegetables and flower plants, which found a ready market throughout that vicinity, adding a neat little sum to their income.

The summer vacation months were devoted to the care of their grounds and garden, and following are some valuable lessons, learned by two intelligent women from experience and observation, who, through publication of this article are hoping that many will derive benefit therefrom; not with the expectation of their work as a whole being adopted, because different conditions call for different methods and uses, but with the idea that here and there COMFORT readers may find helpful ways and means of making the home surroundings both profitable and beautiful.

Always order seeds early and from a reliable seed house.

A good garden will greatly reduce living expenses and add to the luxury of the table.

Water your house plants with tepid water. Cold shocks the plants and is a setback to their growth.

If perennials are trimmed as soon as they cease flowering, your next year's plants and shrubs will yield finer blooms.

Flower-beds with straight sides are quickly evened by driving a small stick at each corner, and from one to the other tie a strong string, letting it rest on grass. With a small hatchet cut the turf, using string as a guide.

Conceal ash heap by planting Virginia Creepers on the most exposed side, and training them over wire netting.

Some of the most effective gardening is done by using a mass of one variety. Here the quaint old-time flowers are seen to best advantage.

To kill grass growing between planks of board-walk, make strong solution of salt and water and pour into opening.

Train cucumber vines to run on poles instead of over the ground. Better and more cucumbers will be produced. Drill holes two feet apart, forming them in squares. Use six foot poles bringing the tops together in wigwam style, or they may be left erect. The same rule applies to tomato raising. Tie to pole with strips of cloth as the vines grow. More tomatoes will be ripened during the season.

Make a fence of sunflowers about any unattractive place on the farm. In the fall you can gather a valuable crop of seeds for your poultry which would cash you some dollars in the market.

A windbreak of native evergreen trees well placed is of great value to the farmer. It breaks the force of the wind, thus forming a protection to the live stock. It is exceedingly ornamental, and after being well started will require very little care. If one of the trees die, replace it with a live one.

A northern exposure where grass and plants refuse to grow may be beautiful by a bed of native ferns. They require practically no care, and many species multiply rapidly.

Liquid dressing makes rapid growing shrubs and plants, and is made by letting equal parts of manure and water stand in a barrel or tub. Add water as amount of liquid is reduced.

A dahlia measuring eight inches across was produced by cutting all other buds from stalk.

To each child over eight years of age, assign a small plot of land which he or she may cultivate, making their own choice of seeds.

Out-of-doors employment brings good health.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS: I have read and taken the COMFORT for years, and find it brimful of good things and could hardly do without it. But will you allow me a small space in your columns while I reply to Mrs. Almee Barlow. I do not doubt there will be many answers with much more merit, yet I feel I cannot overlook such an unmerited slur on our lovely state. Now I think Mrs. B. must have traveled through our state with leather glasses on, or was it a severe case of homesickness? I have lived in California twenty years, and I surely ought to know something more about the country than I had merely passed through it. When I left the Middle States with its terrific storms, its cyclones, droughts, rains, snow and mud, I almost felt as if I had reached Paradise when I landed in California.

We know nothing about storm caves and dugouts here, and speaking of climate, it is delightfully perfect. There is never a day so cool one is not very comfortable and hot sticky nights are unknown. We are not all millionaires, but I do believe ten people

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We know nothing about storm caves and dugouts here, and speaking of climate, it is delightfully perfect. There is never a day so cool one is not very comfortable and hot sticky nights are unknown. We are not all millionaires, but I do believe ten people

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SEEDS

BUCKBEE'S SEEDS SUCCEED!

SPECIAL OFFER:

Made to build New Business. A trial will make you our permanent customer.

Prize Collection Radish, 17 varieties; Lettuce, 12 kinds; Tomatoes, 11 the finest; Turnip, 7 splendid; Onion, 8 best varieties; 10 Spring-flowering Bulbs—65 varieties in all.

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Write to-day; Mention this Paper.

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to cover postage and packing and receive this valuable collection of Seeds postpaid, together with my big Instructive, Beautiful Seed and Plant Book, tells all about the Best varieties of Seeds, Plants, etc.

H. W. Buckbee, Farm 13, ROCKFORD, ILL.

TOMATO GRAPES

A Great Curiosity for garden or yard, just what you want, grow from seeds in 4 months, will climb an arbor, porch or any support 10 to 15 feet, vines completely loaded with large clusters of fruit, size of grapes, flavor of tomatoes, red in color, excellent for preserving.

Lemon Cucumbers, a splendid fruit, grow on long vines in great abundance; color, shape and size of lemons, quality equal to the best cucumbers.

Early June Cabbage is the earliest of all, forms good size heads in June.

Early July Tomato is very smooth, bright red, ripens in North by July 4th.

Our Special 4c Offer

To introduce our seeds we will mail one trial packet each, all 4 pkts. in Coupon Envelope for 4c, and coupon envelope will be accepted for 6c in pay for any seeds we offer in our catalog.

1910 Color Plate Catalog, in which some book of seed bargains, sent free with every lot.

Smith Bros. Seed Co., Box 637, Auburn, N. Y.

We live in a wee little house, considering the size of the family. Tall pines form the background, while in the front are apple and

Recipes Contributed by the Wife of COMFORT'S Publisher

Wishing to add my mite to this Household Number, I am sending to COMFORT Sisters some of my favorite recipes; also some of my rules for laundry work. This is only a fair exchange, for not a few of the nice dishes we enjoy have come from COMFORT Sisters. With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely yours, SADIE H. GANNETT (Wife of Publisher of COMFORT).

A "Baker's Dozen" of Tried Recipes

POTATO SOUP.—One quart of milk, six large potatoes, one stalk of celery if convenient, one onion, one tablespoonful of butter. In double boiler, cook milk, onion and celery together. Boil potatoes, and mash them fine and light; add boiling milk and butter; pepper and salt to taste; rub through strainer and serve immediately. If too thick, add hot milk. A good substitute for double boiler, is a tightly covered pall or kettle set into another which is kept half full of water and allowed to boil hard.

CORN SOUP.—One can of sweet corn put into a porcelain kettle and mashed fine. Add one quart of water and boil half an hour; then add one quart of milk and a piece of butter size of an egg. Pepper and salt to taste. Cook twenty minutes more, strain and serve hot.

CROUTONS.—Use stale pieces of bread, cut into dice and brown in oven to serve with soups and stews. Served hot with milk, they make a wholesome supper for children.

OLD-FASHIONED FRICASSEE CHICKEN.—Skin chicken of fowl, cut at the joints and into pieces to serve. If very fat, remove a part of it. Have water boiling, and drop in one piece at a time, at no time letting the water stop boiling which should well cover the chicken. Cover tightly and set where it will boil very slowly for about an hour and a half, when there should be about three cups of liquor in kettle. In a good-sized frying-pan, put half a cup of butter, and into this put the boiled chicken and fry a light brown. Care should be taken not to burn butter. Place chicken on platter, and into frying pan put the liquor; let come to boil, thicken with flour and water stirred together, cook slowly ten minutes, pour over chicken and serve.

LAMB STEW.—From the least expensive fore-quarter cut of lamb, a delicious stew may be made. Take off skin, and most of the fat; put into boiling water and cook until nearly done. Add a little potato, carrot and turnip, and rice enough to thicken stew. Cook all together one hour. Season with salt and pepper when vegetables are nearly cooked. (If added earlier, it will toughen them.)

STUFFED POTATOES.—Bake potatoes of equal size; when done, cut off a small piece from the end and scoop out the inside. Mash potato, season with butter, a little rich cream, salt and a dash of pepper. Return potato to skins and set in oven to heat. A favorite dish with many is to substitute a third of the potato for chopped cooked meat, or sausage meat.

EASTERN BROWN BREAD.—Beat together two cups of sweet milk and one of sour, one cup of molasses, two teaspoonfuls of soda (rounding full), and one half teaspoonful salt. Add two cups of meal and one of flour previously stirred together. This will make a very thin mixture and allowance should be made for its rising one half. Steam in the oven five hours, by putting mixture in a tightly covered pall, which in turn is put into another larger pall with about three cups of water in the bottom. This larger pall should also be tightly covered and the water will last the whole five hours.

MOTHER'S HARD GINGERBREAD.—Take cup two thirds full of sugar and fill with molasses; add one half cup of water and two even teaspoonfuls of soda; a little cinnamon and ginger. Stir in just enough flour so it can be handled. Turn out on board and lightly form into eight-inch squares about one inch thick. Bake in a moderately hot oven.

GRAHAM MUFFINS.—Mix together one and one half cups sifted graham, one half cup flour, one third cup sugar, two even teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, one even teaspoonful of soda and a half of salt. To one beaten egg, add cup of milk and stir in the prepared flour. Add one fourth cup melted butter and bake in muffin pan in a hot oven.

AUGUSTA APPLE CAKE.—To one pint of flour, add one half teaspoonful soda, one teaspoonful cream of tartar and one half teaspoonful of salt; mix well and rub in one third cup of butter. To one beaten egg, add a cup of milk and stir into flour. This mixture should be about half an inch thick on a shallow baking pan. Prepare five or six sour apples, cutting into eighths; lay them evenly on top of dough and sprinkle freely with sugar. Bake in a moderately hot oven until apples are cooked which should be about thirty minutes. This cake makes a delicious dessert and may be served with pudding sauce.

MOLASSES COOKIES.—Cream together one cup of sugar and three quarters cup butter; add two beaten eggs one cup of molasses, one teaspoonful cinnamon and one of ginger. In a little water dissolve two tablespoonfuls of vinegar. Beat all together and add flour enough to roll out thin.

ORANGE PIE.—Beat the yolks of three eggs until light, and add to them the juice and grated rind of one orange, three quarters of a cup of sugar and a tablespoonful of corn starch in half a cupful of water. Bake without upper crust. Beat whites of eggs to a stiff froth and add one third of a cup of sugar. When pie is partly cooled add meringue and lightly brown.

MOLASSES CUPCAKES.—Two cups sugar, one cup molasses, one fourth teaspoonful soda, butter size of walnut, one half cup boiling water. Boil until crisp. Pull white into thin chips. (Soda is added just before done.)

MINCE PIE.—The king of all pies does not grace the family table as often as it deserves because of the labor and difficulty of preparing the mince meat. As it is cheaper and more satisfactory to buy the prepared mince meat at the store than to try to make it at home, I give no recipe, but advise COMFORT readers to send to the Merrell-Soule Co., Syracuse, N. Y., makers of None Such Mince Meat for their valuable and instructive book, sent you free on application.

Practical Laundry Ideas and Recipes

SOAP MAKING.—A good soap made from the refuse fat, suitable for family use, is easily made and economical. No amount is too small to save, and while fresh it should be made clean and ready for use. To a five pound pail of fat use one can of lye which is sold at the grocers for this purpose. Dissolve lye in three and one half pints of water; stir until dissolved and just lukewarm. Heat fat to same temperature, and in a five stream add the lye stirring continually until it begins to thicken and is smooth. Care should be taken not to heat too long as it is liable to separate. Line baking tin with cloth or paper and pour in soap. When sufficiently hardened, cut into squares. This soap will be white, fine and hard.

SOAP BUYING.—If the family soap is bought of the grocer, it should be purchased by the box, wrapped in paper and stacked in a way that the air will circulate around the cakes. In this way it will harden, thus improving its "lasting" qualities and will not cause the hands as newly bought soap does.

STARCHING KILNS.—If the following recipe is carefully followed, sticking threads, lumpy starch and various other difficulties will be avoided. Take desired amount of dry starch and add sufficient cold water to make a very thin paste. Stir rapidly with the right hand, while with the left pour from a bottle of boiling water enough to make required thickness, always bearing in mind that as it cools the starch thickens. Stir occasionally while cooling to prevent a thick skin forming. A teaspoonful of kerosene added to two quarts of starch will give a gloss and makes the clothes iron easily.

STARCHING.—When starching articles having fringed edges, avoid dipping the fringe by gathering it firmly in hand while remainder of piece

is dipped. Before ironing, straighten fringe with whisk broom brush.

SPRINKLING CLOTHES.—Use hot water when sprinkling clothes. It will take less and soaks in more quickly.

TO SOFTEN WATER.—A little pulverized borax will soften hard water, whiten the clothes and in no way injure them.

WASHING MACHINES.—There are a number of good washing machines on the market, and their use cannot be too strongly urged both from the standpoint of economy and as a labor-saving device. They do not wear out the clothes as rubbing does, and long after pieces have become thin they will hold together if washed in a machine. The 1900 Washer advertised in COMFORT is an especially good machine.

WASHING BLANKETS.—In washing blankets for the first time, soak over night in cold water to remove the bleaching solution which hardens the water. Then wash in a warm lather of soap and water. Rinse well in two warm waters.

TO REMOVE BLOOD STAINS.—Moisten the stain with cold water and sprinkle generously with common table salt. Rub moderately and stain will disappear.

WARM CLOTHES PINS.—Set clothes pins in the oven and warm before hanging out clothes in winter.

TO CLEAN FLATIRONS.—A piece of wire window screening makes an excellent iron cleaner. Another way is to use the inside wrapper that comes around soap to make them smooth.

HOLDERS.—From the side of an old boot cut a piece of leather large enough to put inside of an ironing holder. This is less bulky than many thicknesses of cloth, soon conforms to handle and keeps the heat from the hand.

IRON EMBROIDERY.—If possible, iron embroidery on a Turkish towel with the right side down. It "raises" the design, and the same method applies to ironing any braidwork or Hamburg trimming.

In and About the Kitchen

Every kitchen should be made as comfortable as possible, the place where a good portion of the housewife's time must be spent. So let us look about, to see if by some suggestion we cannot help in the plan and utility of what is about us, as well as adding a little here and there, that may come within our resources.

Attention should first be given to ceiling and walls, and if possible they should be painted, as it is such a simple matter to freshen them. Nowadays, it is a common occurrence to find women who are quite expert with the paint brush, and with just pride will say, "I did the painting myself," and you who read this can also do as much I feel sure.

Next is the question of floors, which is talked of under "Finish and care of floors."

Elevated Table Top

One of the most important, if not the most, is the question of table room, which should be ample, as it simplifies the work. Scrubbed tables are very attractive, but they represent too much labor when there is only one pair of hands to do all the work. Enamel cloth at nineteen cents a yard will last a long time if hot dishes are not set upon it.

Have several hard smooth boards on the kitchen tables, upon which to cut and place hot pans and kettles. The twelve by twelve inch square hard-wood boxes which tobacco is packed in make the best kitchen boards I know of. Use top and bottom pieces. Every grocer buys tobacco in this size box, and no doubt you can get them for the asking.

To go back to tables. Most women do not realize how much fatigue and backache is the direct result of working over too low a table or sink. For a person of medium height, they should not be less than thirty-six inches high, and forty for very tall women. In domestic training schools, special attention is given to this subject.

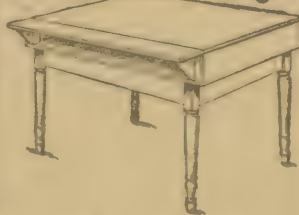
I will describe to you how I made a low table thirty-six inches high: It was a plain, ordinary kitchen table, thirty inches high and without leaves.

From a two by two inch piece of lumber, I sawed four, six-inch long uprights; these I placed on top of table, one at each corner, bringing them flush to edge of table. On the back and ends I fitted smooth pieces of boards, bringing the ends flush at corners and nailing them to uprights. I then put on a new top which I made by taking a drop leaf, and from the compartment between the old and new top, I have an ideal place for kitchen utensils. Excepting the top and leaf, I saved the table a coat of good varnish. You no doubt can pick up a cut your old or store-room lumber that will make this table. If kitchen table is on casters, many steps may be saved by rolling it on whatever part of kitchen you are at work. Near the sink for dishes; near the stove when cooking, or perhaps near a window for extra light.

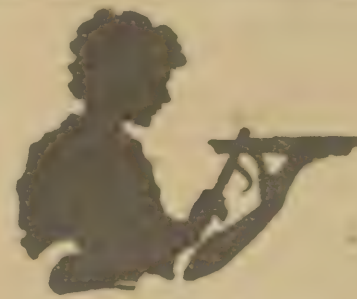
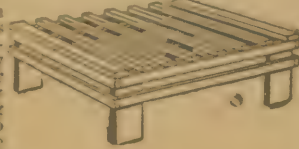
For a permanent table, drop leaf cannot be excelled, especially if the kitchen is small. At a height of thirty-six or more inches, fasten securely to the wall a six-inch strip, and as long as you are to make leaf. Obtain as wide, well-seasoned boards as possible, so when cleated together on the under side, you will have a leaf not less than twenty-four inches wide. Hinge at both ends and center to strip on wall. Make a prop or support for each end of leaf; one end resting on top of base-board, and the other in a place cut in outer end of cleat and about four inches from edge of table, of a length that will bring table level. Cleats should be about ten inches from each end of table, and ends of props will require shaping in order that they may bear evenly and give support. Whenever floor space is required, as perhaps on washing days, props may be taken away and leaf dropped against wall.

If the sink is low, make a wooden rack on which to set your dish-pan, and you will bless COMFORT every time you wash dishes. This is simply constructed by cutting four pieces of narrow board, long enough to make the bottom of dish-pan thirty-six inches from floor. You now proceed to make what is really a square box without a bottom using the four pieces of board for corners, to which you nail strips for top and sides as long as the diameter of your dish-pan, placing them two inches apart. Or the rack may be made long enough to take in the dish-drainer. The rack may be wiped and hung to dry between dish washings.

CARE OF TRAY SINKS.—The following suggestions may be helpful. In case of rust, rub



THE RIGHT HEIGHT.



No increased cost of living when you buy NONE SUCH MINCE MEAT "LIKE MOTHER USED TO MAKE" in 2-pie 10c. clean paper packages

That figures 5c. per pie for the Mince Meat. Talk about Economy!

There is no substitute for mince pie as a dessert—ask your family. It means no extra work for you, no buying of expensive materials, no risk of failure and no loss of reputation as a cook. It means simply ordering NONE SUCH MINCE MEAT. It is made of the choicest materials, by modern methods, with exacting care, in a clean, sanitary kitchen, by a house that has been making it 300 days a year for 25 years.



Our own food laws were 22 years old when the United States Food Law was passed

Two-pie package 10c.—everywhere

Send your name on a post card for "A Story of 3,693 miles of NONE SUCH Mince Pie!"

MERRELL-SOULE CO., SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

Member of the American Association for the Promotion of Purity in Food Products

thoroughly with kerosene oil, letting it remain over night. In the morning wash with strong soap suds and wipe dry. After the morning work is done, warm the sink by pouring hot water over it, wipe dry, and while warm rub with fresh lard or mutton fat. If this is repeated for several days, your sink will become smooth and glossy. The same treatment about once a week is worth while.

CARE OF COOK STOVE.—To keep a stove blackened where a large amount of cooking is being done is very difficult, and consumes a vast amount of strength that can be put to purposes where the returns are greater. A friend whose stove always looked clean and glossy, cared for it in the following way, which I have since tried and found satisfactory: Wash in warm, soapy water. When perfectly dry, wipe with a soft cloth into which the minutest amount of fresh lard has been rubbed. Very little time and strength will be expended. These cloths should be kept from dust and will last a long time.

WOOD BOX.—Those who burn wood in their kitchen stove know it is no small matter to keep the wood box filled. Much labor will be saved by putting casters or wooden trucks onto box by which it may be rolled as near to wood supply as possible, filled and returned to kitchen.

Home-made Towel Rack

There should be a place in the kitchen to hang dish-wipers and towels to dry. A simple rack which is secured to the wall is made as follows: Make a board twenty inches long by ten inches wide. To make the two end pieces, cut a ten by ten inch square piece of board, sawing this in two diagonally. Fasten one piece at each end, with the ten-inch side flush with the end of board. Bore holes in the diagonal edges, two inches apart, through which stout twine may be passed from side to side and tied. This allows seven towels to be hung without touching each other. This rack may be made on a larger scale, thus accommodating more towels.



Modern Methods of Making Mince Meat.

In the past twenty-five years, the production of commercial condensed mince meat has assumed proportions which the average consumer can hardly appreciate. In the old days in the fall of the year a batch of mince meat was made in the home and that one day function has now been made a three hundred day business.

The purchase of raw stock for producing thousands of tons of Condensed Mince Meat is an immense business in itself. Ample storage provisions in tight, light, clean warehouses for hundreds of barrels of sugar, many carloads of raisins and apples, facilities for the preparation of beef and suet are some of the many details which the big Condensed Mince Meat manufacturer must meet in a large way.

The first process in preparing Condensed Mince Meat is the cleansing and drying of the apples, currants and raisins, together with the seeding of the raisins and currants, which, by an ingenious device, is accomplished without tearing the fruit, and this machine delivers the raisins and currants whole and luscious to the compounding machine. The apples, beef and salt are first washed in a large power chopper, similar to the meat choppers found in every well-regulated kitchen. This combination of beef, apples and salt is then delivered to a continuous conveyor and automatically placed with other ingredients into large mixing kettles.

The battery of mixing machines is arranged in a row in the mixing department, and the exact-hand conveyor, constantly unloading, automatically, its burden of apples, beef and salt, raisins, currants, sugar, spices and lard, is a very interesting sight and holds the attention of the spectator. These ingredients are mixed in the great machines for a given time and the manu-

factured Condensed Mince Meat is then dumped, automatically, through the hopper to the floor below, where, by an ingenious machine, it is pressed into cakes and then, again automatically, fed to the wrapping machines, which with almost human fingers wrap in paraffin paper each two-pie cake of Condensed Mince Meat and delivers the wrapped package to girl operatives, who incase it in an inside paper shell and then in an outside paper carton.

The finished packages are then placed in cases, nailed by an automatic nailer, fourteen nails being driven simultaneously through each case cover by two kicks of a lever. The filled case then shoots down a spiral conveyor, running on rollers which are so arranged on a sectional track that the cases may be delivered directly into a car placed on the railroad siding, to given parts of the shipping room for storage, or to trucks for city and small freight deliveries.

The care, inspection and cleanliness of the great modern Condensed Mince Meat factory meet every requirement of the Federal and State Pure Food Laws with the result that today package Condensed Mince Meat is a recognized standard staple in the grocery stores of America.

HOMES FURNISHED ON CREDIT

Just a little payment now and then—without any cash, absolutely free—will furnish you with the goods you want. We give you a plan of payment that is so simple you can follow it. We charge absolutely nothing for this credit accommodation—no interest—no extras of any kind. It's by far the most liberal plan of credit that is serving the American people today. Everything held strictly confidential.

Catalog No. 35 FREE

Just a little payment now and then—without any cash, absolutely free—will furnish you with the goods you want. We give you a plan of payment that is so simple you can follow it. We charge absolutely nothing for this credit accommodation—no interest—no extras of any kind. It's by far the most liberal plan of credit that is serving the American people today. Everything held strictly confidential.

55 Extra
10.95
75c per mo.
Made of solid oak, carved claw feet.
Terms \$1.50 cash, 75c per month.
Write for it today.

Hartman Furniture & Carpet Co.
Dept. E4, 223-229 Wabash Ave., Chicago, U.S.A.
Catalog, with color and best known brands of furniture, carpets, etc., sent FREE on request. Over 100 illustrations—catalog and price list sent on any other concern in the United States.

DO YOUR BUILDINGS NEED PAINTING?

PAINTRITE Reduces the Cost One-Fourth
You Buy Direct from the Factory and Put the Dealer's Profit in YOUR Pocket

If you have hesitated about painting your house or barn because of the cost, PAINTRITE will solve the difficulty. In addition to saving you 25% it WEARS WELL and SPREADS WELL.

WE GUARANTEE EVERY CAN OF PAINTRITE to be of the highest quality. THE CITIZENS PAINT AND VARNISH COMPANY, Cleveland, Ohio.

Practical Ideas and Methods To Put the House in Order

Timely Suggestions for the Spring
House-cleaning, Renovating, etc.



THE RIGHT WAY.

have received during the winter. A good over-head sweeping, floor windows and stairs washed. It is then ready to receive whatever is to be stored there for the summer.

WE HAVE NEXT TO DO with putting away any clothing that will not be worn until another fall, thus relieving closets, racks and bureaus and saving a second handling.

MITTENS, LEGGINGS, STOCKING-LEG CAPS, WOOLEN STOCKINGS and other knitted garments worn by children should have any broken places carefully repaired, then washed and hung away in cotton bags for another season. A little care at this season of the year often saves the necessity of buying new another year.

OUTSIDE WRAPS that have been laid aside should be put on the clothes line to blow, then by hand given a good brushing under arms, under collar, around pockets and facings where a moth is most likely to hide, then put away in a closet or chest that is used expressly for this purpose.

CHIMNEYS should next be cleaned, selecting a day suitable for putting tarps and mattresses out of doors. Take care from a time so hot to inconvenience the household. Take down and dust window shades, shake dust from curtains and bed-covers to be washed. Floor articles (rugs) be taken from closet and put into another room until bedroom is cleaned. See article on "Closets." All pictures are taken from the walls, cleaned and made ready to put up again. Thoroughly dust and clean furniture and set out of room.

Small bed-room furniture is brushed and finished with a cloth wet in warm milk, after which it should be rubbed dry with a soft cloth. Mattresses should be taken out of doors, laid on a sheet, beaten and aired. If carpeted with matting and it is necessary to take it up, it should be handled very carefully. Sweep on both sides, make into a neat roll and lay aside until room is cleaned. In case of a wool carpet, it should be beaten, any rips repaired, and made ready to lay again. If you have no sweeping bags, cover broom with clean cloth and brush ceiling. From a chair or step-ladder, wipe walls by hand with soft clean cloth. After all the dusting is done it is well to wash floor so it may be drying and ready for carpet. Waxed the wood-work is next in order and is made easy by first taking a cloth and brush and removing all loose dust. Use warm water and hard soap, taking care not to wet wall paper. Do not allow water to run down over the finish, as it will look streaked when dry. Spots are often successfully removed by applying kerosene oil which does not injure paint.

For windows, see article on "window washing." Lay carpet, and if matting is used, wipe with warm water and soap used sparingly. Wool carpets should be wiped with warm water, to which two tablespoonsful of ammonia have been added. Garments may now be restored to closet and furniture returned to room. Curtains, covers, cushions and spread may be washed when convenient.

All the cleaning cloths should be washed each night and made ready for the following day. In case of delay, if only one room is undertaken at a time, there can be little upset to the family.

THE SPRING CLEANING OF FURNITURE should be done at first taking down and cleaning all bed-room and dressing room articles ready to be returned to place. Plants removed from room, sofa pillows brushed or beaten, draperies hung out of doors to air. Furniture cleaned and either covered or removed from room.

TO MAKE A CLOTH "DAMP" for dusting, wet and wring dry only half of it; then fold over the dry half and wring again, which will even the moisture.

DUST CLOTHS ARE BEST made from cheese cloth and are easily washed.

A PAINTER'S BRUSH will remove dust from places that the dust cloth cannot reach.

FEATHER DUSTERS should never be used indoors. They do not remove dust, but simply scatter it about the room.

MAKE FURNITURE COVERS to be used to cover furniture when sweeping from any kind of old cotton material. For this purpose they will last a long time if shaken, folded and put away when not in use.

FURNITURE CLEANED IN ROOM.—It is often inconvenient to move upholstered furniture out of doors to clean, and it may be accomplished indoors by covering with a cloth dipped in warm water and wrung as dry as possible. See article on "to make a cloth damp." Then beat, changing cloth as soon as necessary, which will remove all the dust from the furniture.

SAFETY CARPETS.—If it is unnecessary to take up carpet any of the best ways of sweeping are not to "beat" a dust, and at the same time brighten the carpet is to take old newspapers and soak in ammonia water, chain water and dry, squeezing them as dry as possible. Tear into small pieces and run under carpet. When you sweep, the paper will roll into little balls, taking up every particle of dust.

TO CLEAN CEILINGS, windows and paint, see description under "renovating."

FLOORS ARE cleaned in the same order as already described.

UPHOLSTERY.—Early in the summer, when the cellar is practically empty, thoroughly clean and fumigate with sulphur to destroy the germs of mites. Sponges and brushes may be bought for this purpose which should be set in a dish

WITH the opening of the spring season the housewife, and which we naturally look upon with a certain amount of dread; for it involves not only the making clean of every part of the house, but the care of the winter clothing, the repairing and renovating of the furniture, with perhaps the necessity of adding a bit here and there. It is to assist in these special duties that the following article is written, giving a systematic method of work whereby a vast amount will be accomplished without the upheaval and discomfort usually attending house-cleaning.

THE AT C should be cleaned first, going through any accumulation it may have received during the winter. A good over-head sweeping, floor windows and stairs washed. It is then ready to receive whatever is to be stored there for the summer.

WE HAVE NEXT TO DO with putting away any clothing that will not be worn until another fall, thus relieving closets, racks and bureaus and saving a second handling.

MITTENS, LEGGINGS, STOCKING-LEG CAPS, WOOLEN STOCKINGS and other knitted garments worn by children should have any broken places carefully repaired, then washed and hung away in cotton bags for another season. A little care at this season of the year often saves the necessity of buying new another year.

OUTSIDE WRAPS that have been laid aside should be put on the clothes line to blow, then by hand given a good brushing under arms, under collar, around pockets and facings where a moth is most likely to hide, then put away in a closet or chest that is used expressly for this purpose.

CHIMNEYS should next be cleaned, selecting a day suitable for putting tarps and mattresses out of doors. Take care from a time so hot to inconvenience the household. Take down and dust window shades, shake dust from curtains and bed-covers to be washed. Floor articles (rugs) be taken from closet and put into another room until bedroom is cleaned. See article on "Closets." All pictures are taken from the walls, cleaned and made ready to put up again. Thoroughly dust and clean furniture and set out of room.

Small bed-room furniture is brushed and finished with a cloth wet in warm milk, after which it should be rubbed dry with a soft cloth. Mattresses should be taken out of doors, laid on a sheet, beaten and aired. If carpeted with matting and it is necessary to take it up, it should be handled very carefully. Sweep on both sides, make into a neat roll and lay aside until room is cleaned. In case of a wool carpet, it should be beaten, any rips repaired, and made ready to lay again. If you have no sweeping bags, cover broom with clean cloth and brush ceiling. From a chair or step-ladder, wipe walls by hand with soft clean cloth. After all the dusting is done it is well to wash floor so it may be drying and ready for carpet. Waxed the wood-work is next in order and is made easy by first taking a cloth and brush and removing all loose dust. Use warm water and hard soap, taking care not to wet wall paper. Do not allow water to run down over the finish, as it will look streaked when dry. Spots are often successfully removed by applying kerosene oil which does not injure paint.

For windows, see article on "window washing." Lay carpet, and if matting is used, wipe with warm water and soap used sparingly. Wool carpets should be wiped with warm water, to which two tablespoonsful of ammonia have been added. Garments may now be restored to closet and furniture returned to room. Curtains, covers, cushions and spread may be washed when convenient.

All the cleaning cloths should be washed each night and made ready for the following day. In case of delay, if only one room is undertaken at a time, there can be little upset to the family.

THE SPRING CLEANING OF FURNITURE should be done at first taking down and cleaning all bed-room and dressing room articles ready to be returned to place. Plants removed from room, sofa pillows brushed or beaten, draperies hung out of doors to air. Furniture cleaned and either covered or removed from room.

TO MAKE A CLOTH "DAMP" for dusting, wet and wring dry only half of it; then fold over the dry half and wring again, which will even the moisture.

DUST CLOTHS ARE BEST made from cheese cloth and are easily washed.

A PAINTER'S BRUSH will remove dust from places that the dust cloth cannot reach.

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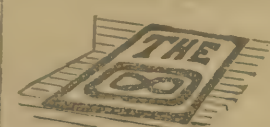
of water before lighting. Tightly close windows and doors during the day. A coat of paint is important for cleanliness. You will discover that your milk, cream and butter will keep longer as well as the fat and winter vegetables.

WASHING WINDOWS.—The easiest and best method of washing windows is to first clean each, using skower and cloth for corners, then with a pail of hot water to which two large spoonfuls of ammonia has been added, wash the glass and wipe dry with old cotton cloth. If there are spots of paint on glass, often strong hot vinegar will remove them. Another way is to use several applications of turpentine, when the paint will soften so it may be scraped off.

WALL PAPERING.—If old paper is any loosed it should be taken from the wall before the new is hung. If the new paper is much lighter in color than the old, the old should be removed, as often the wet paste will act on some chemical in the old paper causing the colors to "run" and penetrate the new. To remove old paper, with a whitewash or other brush, go over the walls several times with fairly hot water, letting them stand about fifteen minutes between wettings. The paper will then strip off easily, leaving the walls in perfect condition. Never use a knife with which to remove wall paper. One cannot help breaking the surface of the plastering somewhat, and this causes the paper to break and wear badly.

PASTE MAKING.—Take one quart of flour and thoroughly mix with one cup of brown sugar. Add just enough cold water to thoroughly wet flour, making a perfectly smooth mixture; keep adding water and stirring until it becomes the consistency of thin gruel; put into a ten-quart kettle and set on stove and into the flour and water slowly pour boiling water until you have the right consistency, bearing in mind that it will thicken a third in cooling. Cook about ten minutes, and while cooling stir occasionally. The sugar may be omitted; it is used to give a better sticking quality to the paste.

Finish and Care of Floors



UNCARPETED floor grows in favor and it is predicted that it has come to stay in American homes. Too much cannot be said in its favor, when we consider how impossible it is to thoroughly clean a carpet, and the amount of germ-laden dust which is thrown about the room, lodging on wall paper and woodwork, be one ever so careful in sweeping.

Everyone cannot have the waxed oak floors, but there are various substitutes which make them attractive and durable, and the following methods are within the reach of all, showing the possibilities of what might seem a hopeless condition.

Soft Wood Floors

FILLING CRACKS AND FINISH.—For floors over which carpets have been tacked thoroughly clean, and give a coat of thin priming to nail and tack holes and fill with putty. Fill any wide cracks between boards with fitted strips of wood, pound in, and the narrow ones with a wood filler made by dissolving a quarter of a pound of alum in two quarts of boiling water. To this solution, add all the old finely stripped newspapers the water will take up, or until it forms a smooth and very stiff paste. Stir constantly while adding newspapers. By means of a putty knife or other similar instrument, force this paste into the cracks of the floor and even off the surface. Let stand until the following morning when a coat of good floor paint is applied, and when thoroughly dry, apply the second coat, using a color that will harmonize with wall paper and furnishings. This same method is used when only a border is desired, being sure to make the border sufficiently wide to run under edge of rug six inches. Use plenty of paint in cracks which greatly assists in concealing them.

STAINING TO RESEMBLE HARD WOOD.—For floors without openings between boards, or where they may be filled entirely by strips of wood, a floor closely resembling hard wood may be had by use of a staining which comes prepared for this purpose. Use two coats, and over this two coats of good floor varnish called *Elastica*, etc., letting the floor stand several days between coats. It makes a hard, waterproof coating which does not mar. Those interested should read the *Elastica* advertisement on this page. Also note their offer to send book free on application which gives directions for use and points out the merits of *Elastica*. When used on a border, this will wear several years, and even then only a coat of varnish will be necessary if applied before any wear comes to the staining.

NEW SOFT WOOD FLOORS.—When it is desired to keep the new floors light colored, fill with a coat of white shellac, then varnish. On this, as well as on a painted surface, a coat of wax which comes in both solid and liquid form, may be used. This gives the floor a dull gloss which is less likely to show marks.

GRAINING FLOORS.—If the art of graining is understood, it makes a good durable finish for borders and should have a coat of varnish once a year.

Hard Wood Finish

Birch and maple are fine grained and make handsome floors. The best and usual finish is a good floor varnish using two or three coats, and letting varnish stand several days between coats. When thoroughly hardened, if the high gloss is undesirable, rub down with oil and powdered pumice stone. If waxed, place can in dish of hot water so it will soften, and apply sparingly with a wooden cloth. Let stand two or three hours and rub lengthwise of the floor with a weighted brush covered with flannel or an old piece of carpeting.

RESTORING OLD FLOORS.—Old hard wood floors that have been scrubbed may be restored by applying a coat of hot linseed oil. Buy oil at a reliable place, as other than the genuine article will give a sticky surface. Apply with flannel cloth, using only dish which will readily strike in, and keep hot by setting dish containing oil in another of hot water. Rub hard and let stand overnight when it should have a coat of shellac. A little turpentine added to oil makes a firmer surface.

A MADE BORDER.—When the floor cannot be restored and an art-square is to be used, a very satisfactory border is made by stretching and tacking close to the base-board one width of strong cotton cloth and giving this three coats of paint. It takes up the paint, making a solid body which has a smooth, firm surface. Miter corners, and take care that the cloth is well laid before paint is applied.

RESTORING OIL-CLOTH.—In the case of an oil-cloth that has the paint worn off, but is still whole, it may be painted or grained and varnished and of service for a long time to come.

CARE OF FLOORS.—Painted, varnished, waxed or oiled floors do not require scrubbing. Unless in the kitchen or dining-room, usually a dry mop cleans them perfectly. Where the wear is heavier, tepid water with a very little good hard soap used sparingly is necessary. Always wipe with a dry cloth to prevent a dull streaked appearance.

Warm milk and water also is excellent with which to wash oil-cloth stained shoes as well as painted ones, and should be dried dry. Save all the cloths used in painting the floors as they contain a good deal of wax and oil and

are valuable used as a polisher after the weekly cleaning. They should be kept in a covered jar. CARPETS TOO BADLY WORN TO TACK DOWN AGAIN may be made into rugs. Clean by beating and rip apart, taking the least worn breadths and sewing them together according to the required lengths. Often a worn place may be cut out and the breadth sewed together, using a "carpet" stitch. Bind the four sides with serged braid, tacked to a floor, face side down, a thin coat of glue applied to the back and allowed to dry several days. This greatly improves their appearance. The seams and patches will show less, as well as giving a body that prevents the "kicking up" of edges. If one has a floor upon which a rug may be tacked, this can easily be done at home.

ODD PIECES OF STRAW MATTING may be made into rugs by fringing both ends and overcasting the edges both ways; that is, across and back again with carpet thread.

RUGS ARE RUINED BY SHAKING, their fringes silt into shreds and the rug otherwise pulled apart. Rugs should always be swept or beaten on both sides. It cleans them better and does not injure them.

ALWAYS ROLL CARPETS AND RUGS when taking them from floor so they will not become creased. KEEP CARPET SWEEPER HANGING.—To rest on floor when not in use will curl ends of rush, thus preventing it doing good work.

MARKING RUGS.—Attractive rugs may be made from cast-off woollen clothing. Rip, wash and press well. Cut into strips, the width depending on desired thickness of rug. Use wooden needles and knit into breadths which are sewed together. When there is considerable material of one color, this may be knit into breadths by itself, and used alternately with other colors. Cotton garments may be made into rugs in the same manner, and being washable, are excellent for chambers.

SEWING MATTING.—Tightly baste and with an over-and-over stitch sew breadths of straw matting together instead of tacking them. It wears better, it makes a smoother carpet and the dust will not collect at seams.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

own their homes here to one in the East. Wages are good and living cheap. Live here a year and you know, it is not fair to take a flying trip anywhere and then give your impressions as facts.

We have very good water piped right into the house, every room if we so wish it, at the enormous price of one dollar per month.

I wonder if you noticed the beautiful roses which can be gathered every month in the year. Everything grows so luxuriantly, strawberries, raspberries, etc. We also have acres on acres of beautiful orchards, and do you know every year we send you thousands of tons of the most delicious fruit? And can you realize the gold and silver, and other precious metals we dig and send broadcast over the land? As for packing-box furniture it is missing in this locality. Some things may cost a little more, but the Mission furniture is manufactured in the state and costs no more than where we formerly lived. Come out again Mrs. B. and bring your piazza with you, it can set in one corner of ours and I will try to give you a better time. We will cover you with roses, give you a feast of oranges, and if you feel a desire to take an ocean dip, we will put you on a west-bound train, and in two hours you can enjoy a mid-winter swim. Or if so be your mind still craves the snow, and ice of your native state, we will put you on an East-bound train, where in three hours you can be rushing down the snowy toboggan slide, or wandering through magnificent ice palaces of the Sierras, all in the beautiful state of California. As for myths, visit us for a year and I am sure you will sing a different song. A transplanted sister and true love of California.

Mrs. S. M. HOLLINGSWORTH, Sacramento, Cal.

DEAR EDITOR AND SISTERS:

I am another interested reader of COMFORT. I am a young man's wife; my husband has had charge of the White Swan Mine for six years, and during vacation we spend at the mine and the children, as long as I wish, like to exchange with somebody for their school pennant. I have never read any Jewish girl's letters since I have taken this paper, and as I am a Jewess would like to hear from some of my sisters from other parts of the country.

My heart goes out in sympathy and love to the poor shut-ins. How noble and patient they are, we who have our health and strength don't half appreciate it. Many girls who can't have everything they want and are discontented and unhappy often, because of some trifling disappointment I have heard say, "Oh! I wish I were dead." How wrong this is; reading of other lives, makes one thankful for theirs.

COMFORT has been a great help to me, but as this is just to introduce myself, I will close with the hope of being welcomed and hearing from some of my own people.

LENA COOKS, 445 Maple St., Eau Claire, Wis.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I have taken COMFORT for three years and I shall never part with it as long as I am here. I enjoy reading this dear old corner better than anything else. It certainly is a comfort when you feel lonely, to sit down, and chat with the dear sisters a while; and I feel lonely sometimes. We came to this city last July, moving from New Haven where we had lived the last seven years, after coming from Norway in 1902. I have many dear friends in New Haven, and miss them, though I have found many dear sisters and brothers in our church here, the Swedish Methodist Episcopal.

Our married life is blessed with three nice, healthy children, two girls, eight and four years, and a boy six.

Ansonia is a lovely little town and I think it is a healthy place.

I wish the sisters would send me postals or letters the 3rd of March or later. I will then be twenty-nine.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16.)

Kitchen Floors Easily Cleaned

Keep your kitchen floor spotlessly clean without the labor of scrubbing on hands and knees. Make it spot-proof and waterproof by applying a coat of *Elastica* Floor Finish.

It will give you a Kitchen Floor that simply wiping with a damp cloth keeps clean. Water and sputtering grease from sink and stove do not affect its smooth surface. You need never use a scrubbing brush again.



(Look for this Trade-Mark on a Yellow Label. All others are imitations.)

FLOOR FINISH

is the one satisfactory finish for every class and condition of floor, old or new.

It is the ideal protection for paint, oil cloth or linoleum—any surface subjected to hard use. It is the greatest possible economy and the greatest labor saver. With it the care of your floor is easy. Ask your Dealer.

FREE Paper Cutter and Book Mark Combined

Our experts have written a book, "How to Finish Floors," which we want every woman to have, whether she has a floor to finish now or not. If you will write at once we will send you, free, a handsome paper cutter and book mark combined, made of celluloid and handsomely lithographed in ten colors. This is something you really use and want the greatest possible convenience. We send it free with our book. Write today. Ask for book No. 71.

Address either New York or Chicago, or International Varnish Co., Ltd., Toronto, Can. (3)

STANDARD VARNISH WORKS

In making boiled dumplings I have better success to let them boil five minutes before covering, than if the lid gets off or you want to look at them for any cause there is not the danger of their being soggy.

Do any of the sisters use Jellies in the place of the old-time boiled cider in their mince-meat? We think it much about.

Since I commenced using borax in both boiled and cold starch I have better results doing up collar and cuffs. One tablespoonful of borax to three quarts of boiled, one teaspoonful to one half of cold starch, it makes it more like laundry work.

Did any of the sisters ever take yeast bread dough, when ready for the time and pinch off pieces and spread out, put a piece of butter, a little sugar and a few salted and dried peaches and apples together, rise and bake? They are good for the school child as well as for breakfast with coffee. I also take enough dough for a small loaf and roll out thin, spread with butter, sugar and yolk of an egg, beat and spread on, roll up, take a knife and cut in pieces like roll cake, place in tins and rise the same, bake. They are what we call egg rolls.

Hoping this little will be of use to someone, I may venture to take a seat with you again.

Mrs. BEILE EAMES HAZELTINE, Dunkirk, R. D. 11, N. Y.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I am a little nineteen-year-old milliner, five feet one inch tall, brown eyes, hair and complexion. Have been enjoying COMFORT three years and would like to hear from other girls who are in the same business. I have a few Bau Claire high school pennants (the small size), they are about sixteen or seventeen inches long. I would like to exchange with somebody for their school pennant. I have never read any Jewish girl's letters since I have taken this paper, and as I am a Jewess would like to hear from some of my sisters from other parts of the country.

My heart goes out in sympathy and love to the poor shut-ins. How noble and patient they are, we who have our health and strength don't half appreciate it. Many girls who can't have everything they want and are discontented and unhappy often, because of some trifling disappointment I have heard say, "Oh! I wish I were dead." How wrong this is; reading of other lives, makes one thankful for theirs.

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(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16.)

NO MONEY DOWN

30 DAYS

FREE TRIAL

\$1.00 A MONTH

Take this Kingma-...
\$1.00 A MONTH
SAVE \$30 TO \$40
OUR 20-YEAR GUARANTEE
KING SEWING MACHINE CO.
436 COURT ST., BUFFALO, N. Y.

Pretty and Useful Decorations for COMFORT HOMES

I KNOW every woman who reads this magazine, whether she be wife, sister, mother or sweetheart, cherishes the desire to add pretty bits of furnishings to the home. It is a pleasant feeling to look around on tastefully decorated rooms and feel that you have helped to make them pretty. Don't you all agree with me?

Now I'm going to tell you of several useful and ornamental things you can make for the different rooms in your house.

The Persian Glassware is quite the latest thing and just as pretty as can be. Those who appreciate handsome dishes for the table, should read the following instructions and add a piece of handsomely decorated glassware to their possessions.

Persian Cake Plate.

Buy a plain glass plate and paste carefully over the outside pretty cigar labels, picture side to the glass. Use white of egg to paste with. You all know men who smoke cigars and they will be glad to give you the bright colored labels. Of course these bands must be pasted so they fit into each other. When the entire outside of the plate is pasted over, cut a piece of green felt just the size of the plate and glue it over the outside. This gives a neat finish to the outside of the plate, concealing the backs of the labels and as for the inside of the plate, the pictured bands seem as if in the very glass itself, making a decidedly rich effect. Of course you are not compelled to make a cake plate. Perhaps you would prefer a berry bowl or a set of preserve dishes, perhaps an ornament for your parlor table. Whatever you make, I am sure you will like it.

Postage Stamp Decorated Picture Frame

A novel wall ornament is obtained by a new style of picture framing. Neatly cut monograms are pasted on the mat surrounding picture. Put them on hit or miss about one inch apart—sometimes more sometimes less, according to your idea of what is pretty. After the entire mat has been decorated in this way the glass is fitted on and secured either by a modern gold or wooden frame. If you have no monograms, postage stamps each of a different denomination make as novel an effect. This is the latest style and I advise you to place one of your pretty photos in a monogrammed frame. Start right now collecting monograms or postage stamps and it won't be long before you have enough to cover a good-sized mat.

Collar and Handkerchief Holder

The girl who likes pretty things in her bedroom and who is deft with her fingers will enjoy making the collar and handkerchief holder which is here illustrated.

Take pieces of white linen or figured scrim eighteen and one half inches square, two yards of narrow beading, six yards of baby ribbon, three quarters of a yard of inch wide lace, one and one half yards of ribbon one inch wide. Round wooden embroidery hoop, six and one quarter inches in diameter.

Now find the center of one of the pieces of material six and one half inches in diameter. Turn over this edge and stitch around the narrow beading, sewing on edge of fringe of lace. Wind the hoop with the narrow ribbon, sewing the hoop neatly on inside of the center opening. Attach the wide ribbon to hang it up by, making a full cluster of ribbon loops and ends on top. Now sew together the two pieces of linen. After turning, measure six inches from each corner on each side, stitch the beading diagonally across and run in narrow baby ribbon. Make one dozen bows of looped ribbon, sewing one at the end of each piece of beading and one at each of the four corners.

A New Sofa Cushion

The pillow illustrated is quite a new shape and is made of meshed green canvas. You will need two pieces of canvas thirty and one half inches long and nineteen inches wide. For the embroidery get five skeins each of dark blue, green and pink mercerized cotton floss. Thread two or three threads of the blue floss in needle and cross-stitch a row (in every mesh) three inches from each end. Above this cross-stitch three stitches in green floss, skip a mesh, then stitch three more stitches, skip a mesh and so on clear across. Above this stitch one cross-stitch with pink floss in the middle of the three green. Two meshes above this work two large eyelet holes, one inch apart with the green floss, leave a space of three inches, then work two more eyelets and so on across each end. Be very careful that the eyelets in each piece come right on top of each other, as the pillow ends are to be faced together, with twisted mercerized cotton floss, using the three colors, pink, green and blue. The cotton ends in loops in the middle of each pillow end. Above this is a simple design outlined in cross-stitch with black, the small squares filled in with pink, while the center is worked in green, with one row of dark blue surrounding it. Work three of the designs in an even line across each end, leaving one mesh above eyelet holes. Ravel out each end of the pillow up to the line of blue cross-stitch, then tie in strands, making a pretty fringe.

A Pretty and Novel Bedspread

As many houses are made with a bedroom opening off the parlor, of course one wants something pretty as a bed cover. White spreads are not very ornamental so I suggest your making a bed cover and pillow sham as follows. For material get a figured chintz with a white background or if you cannot obtain this, a heavy white scrim with pink flowers would be very dainty. A white calico with pink, blue and

green flowers could be used, and would look fresh and pretty.

Make the pillow sham twenty inches wide and fifty-eight inches long and trim it with a four-inch ruffle on its four sides. Top and side ruffles do not join. This using one big sham for the two pillows is quite the rage just now.

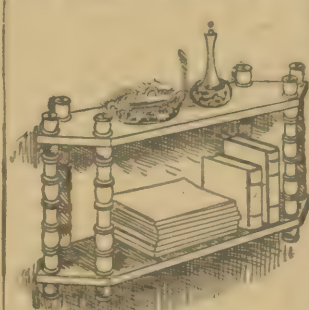
The bedspread must be eighty-six inches long and two breadths of chintz sewn together will make the desired width, unless the bed is very narrow. To avoid mistakes, let me say that the cover must extend one and a half inches over the edge of the bed, both at the foot and the two sides. Now sew an eighteen-inch ruffle on the two sides of the cover, leaving an unruffled space of seven inches at top and bottom of cover on each side. Of course the ruffle must have a pretty heading as this makes a very dressy effect.

These measurements will make a cover for an ordinary sized bed, but of course will not fit a three quarter bed or extraordinarily large or under-sized beds. In such cases you must take measurements.

KATHERINE BOOTH.

Mantel Made from Spools

Utilizing empty spools as a material for making pretty tables is not especially new, but a mantel which may serve for book shelf as well, makes an ornamental wall decoration and is made in the following way: Make six wooden rods eighteen inches long that will fit holes in spools; make two shelves just alike from boards measuring twenty-seven inches long by nine wide, and point at each end. Bore holes at all six corners in each board about an inch and a half from edge, large enough to admit rods. Have ready for use a pot or tube of good glue and a small stick with which to apply glue to inside of spools.



USEFUL AND ORNAMENTAL

mantel together apply glue to rods and at the bottom of each put on a spool that is thoroughly glued inside and on top; now put on lower shelf and spools enough to bring a distance of about ten inches between shelves then add top shelf and one spool above on each rod. Use plenty of glue on rods and inside of spools as well as between spools where they meet. Let rest on floor several days until the glue is thoroughly hardened as much of the strength is due to the glue. Now trim off any extra length of rod, smooth and stain any desired color. Painted same color as finish of room is in good taste. Those living near places where a considerable amount of thread and silk is being used can often find odd-shaped spools.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

lands produce in luxuriance, grains, grasses, vegetables and fruits, and live stock of high quality is raised inexpensively on nearly every farmstead.

Majority of the population is on farms where the bulk of the state's wealth is produced. Free delivery of mail to almost every community; telephone lines, with other improvements, have materially benefited the industrial and social conditions of the rural population.

Kansas ranks first in wheat production, notwithstanding the immensity of the wheat crops, it's the corn yield that has made Kansas rich. Well, this is October and fall is with us again. The weather is beautiful here now, but before this month is ended no doubt we shall see snow. Uncle, if you will come out here this fall, I will feed you on pumpkin pie and home-made molasses. I would like a post-card shower. With kind regards to all, your cousin,

ELLA MARTIN.

Ella, I will not permit Billy the Goat to eat your letter. I am glad you have some fast trains in Kansas. It's about time. The trains used to be dreadfully slow in your state. I knew a young lady who was going from Kansas City, Missouri, to the other end of your state where she was to marry a cow puncher. The train was so slow and took so long on the journey that before she reached her destination, the man she was to have married had hitched up to another woman, raised a family of ten children, and died of old age. The Golden State Limited no doubt is considered a fast train, but it simply does not begin to compare with the trains we have here in the East. If you want to ride on a fast train you should get aboard one of the greased lightning express that run between New York and Philadelphia, and which start from Jersey City. Now those trains travel some. I remember I was on one of those trains some years ago, and stuck my head out of the car window to kiss my best girl good by, and to my utter astonishment when I got my mouth on what I thought to be my best girl's lips, I found I was kissing another man's wife in Philadelphia, and say that man didn't do a thing but hammer the slats out of me. Now that's traveling some. The only time I ever saw a train move fast in Kansas was when a cyclone was fanning it in the rear, then it moved because it had to. I am glad to hear such favorable reports of your grand state, Ella. Kansas is all right. If some of these old ossified Eastern states only had the progressive ideas of the people of Kansas, we would not have corporations trailing the Star Spangled Banner in the dust. Ella, I fear that business engagements will not permit me to accept your invitation to come out to Rock Creek and load up with your pumpkin pie and home-made molasses. Billy the Goat is anxious to go in my stead, but he would probably finish up by eating the whole town. However, Ella, if you want to load one of those pumpkin pies in a freight car and are willing to pay damages, if the weight of the pie smashes all the bridges and tears up all the roadbed between Kansas and my chicken coop, I'll take the risk of eating a small piece about a mile square, if you and the pumpkin have no objection. You can send the home-made molasses by express. One needs a lot of molasses inside and out to give one strength and courage to go through a winter in this section. Billy the Goat has his Sunday pants trimmed with molasses during the blizzard season. He says it helps to keep his appetite warm. Billy's a wise gazook.

Iowa, June 29, 1900.
Chirley Douglas, Dear Sir: I have come to you for advice not knowing who to apply to. I wish very much to make my own books and to have my health improved. I could make some good books, but I am not sure if they were reliable and would sell. I have some poetry and some prose which I am sure would sell. I have no trouble in finding publishers for my poetry, but I have not found one for my prose. You have said that you would like to see a sample of my work. I will send you a sample of my poetry and my prose. I got one of my poems published in Chicago on paper it cost me about \$15.00 all of which I had to borrow. I am not a millionaire whatever all I got was the name of a small house. Later I got a letter from the publisher saying that the concern was a fraud. I had like to sell my poems for more than I could get for them. I am not a beginner and not well known. It is hard to get introduced. Thanking you in advance for any advice as to the sale of my poems. I know you are

very busy and have no time to answer silly questions but I trust you can find time for a wee short letter to me (That's what they all say—Uncle C.) Hoping to hear from you at an early date. I remain
Yours Truly ALICE G.

I get hundreds, aye, and even thousands of letters, similar to the above. If I were callous and heartless I would pitch them into the waste basket, but such letters hurt and exasperate me. Surely there is no limit to human fatuity, incredulity and inhuman rascality. Barnum said there was a sucker born every minute. If Barnum had known anything about people who think they can make a living by writing pitiful, rhymeless drivel he would surely have said that a sucker was born every second instead of every minute. Every few months for the last six years, through these columns, have I warned the readers of this magazine against the song sharks who prey upon the foolish and ignorant, for a person of intelligence knows at once that a living can only be obtained by hard work, and that no one outside of a lunatic asylum would pay a red cent for a million tons of rhymeless dope. When a person advertises for song poems, they don't want the poems, you ought to know that, they simply want your money. They can get tons of poems without advertising for them. They trade upon the vanity, credulity and conceit of the amateur song poem (?) writers. They jolly them into believing their ill-scrubbed lines (lines which have neither sense, rhyme nor reason, and every word of which is misspelled) are brilliant with genius, and will bring them thousands of dollars. Send them a Chinese laundry bill or a bunch of fly specks and they will tell you Shakespeare never wrote anything half as good and there's millions in publishing them. The native village lyric writer parades about his native village informing his friends, that he isn't going to work any more. He has got a softer snap than toll. He is just going to lie back and make cat rhyme with hat, and true with you, and there is a man in New York or Chicago who is going to pay him thousands of dollars a month for his marvelous brain work. All his friends are envious, and they are just heart-broken because they can't ake cat and hat, and you and true rhyme, so they too could get thousands of dollars from the generous man in Chicago or New York, and give work a shake and be rich loafers with automobiles. So they dream their dreams of madness. Then the song shark who has got them well on his hook tells them it will cost fifteen or twenty-five dollars, maybe fifty as their part of getting out the first song. The writer of the above letter was only stung for fifteen dollars. She was lucky. On receipt of the fly's money the song spider paid a man to print a hundred and fifty copies of so of the song fly's lyrics. The music (?) tuneless dope, has done duty scores of times before for other song flies, and the whole cost of producing the song is about five dollars. The shark nets ten dollars profit. Of course this pitiful dope is never put on the market. No music jobber would ever buy such trash any more than the provision merchant would buy mud for butter. Music jobbers only handle the output of the great publishing firms—the big musical hits written by expert writers in New York City. These hits do not become hits until the publishers have spent thousands of dollars on advertising and pushing them, and thousands more in fees to vaudeville and theatrical artists for singing and popularizing them. The amateur song poem writer is under the impression that everybody in America is as ignorant and foolish as he is—thank God they are not. It is a fact however that a fool and his money or a fool and her money are soon parted and it is also a fact that wherever you see a greenhorn with a few dollars, there is always a quick-witted shark ready to swipe it. People who lack education should never attempt to tuck into literature. I have printed the letter above with all its pitiful illiteracy exactly as written. You will notice that the writer uses "hat" for had. I presume there are some people who would use "pants" as well as "hat" for had, and expend their whole wardrobe in vainly trying to spell one syllable words. The ignoramus is always the meal ticket of the song shark. Ignorance is so easily hooked. Now, dear friends, let me tell

you once more there is absolutely no market in this country for song poems. All the popular songs are produced by a dozen big firms in New York. Each of these firms has a staff of professional writers, lyricists and composers under contract to them. The work of outsiders is never used, as the publisher of course must bring out and push so many songs yearly, written by those under contract to him. This is necessary to enable them to live. Tons of dopey rhymes are sent from all over the country to these big publishers daily. The most atrocious are passed around for the staff to laugh at, and the whole caboodle find their way to the furnace. If you want to write song poems you must get an education, and know enough not to use "hat" for had. Don't mix your wardrobe and your grammar, your underclothes and your English. You must then come to New York and produce some really clever bright work. There is no market for the mediocre. Outside the publisher's office you may find a composer who knows some of the publishers, and who will set your lyrics to music. Then you will have to butt into the publisher's sanctum. It may take you several months to get in and obtain an interview. Your song may be accepted and after it is accepted it may rust in the publisher's safe for years before it is put on the market. Song fashions change quickly and hundreds of songs that are accepted are never published. The publisher may give you ten dollars cash for your song, or ten dollars advance royalty. If it appeals to him, the odds are however, that you will get nothing. You will give half the ten dollars to the composer, and with the five that's left, you will buy a ticket in the direction of home. It will probably take you a tenth of the way on your journey, and you'll have the proud privilege of walking the rest, and land back home a sadder and wiser man. Boys and girls, if any of you get stung after reading this it serves you right. Fools rush in where angels fear to tread, and the world has no time to waste sympathy on the foolish. Remember too that only one song in a thousand pays the cost of publication and only one in ten thousand becomes a real hit. The demand for sheet music is comparatively limited and those who buy music are not fools enough to buy the dope written by Backwoods Jake or Corn Cob Sarah and for a very sufficient reason, this dope is never put on the market, because no one is crazy enough to handle it and no one would dare to handle it.

ELKTON, MISSOURI.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
I am a little Missouri girl, nineteen years of age, weigh one hundred and eight pounds, have blue eyes, light hair. I am the only girl in our family. I have three brothers; the oldest sixteen years of age, is teaching school this winter. He is going to study medicine when he finishes his education. I taught school last year. I like teaching very well but do not think I will ever teach again. I am now attending the State Normal at Springfield, Mo., a town of fifty or sixty thousand inhabitants. We have a fine school here. The only thing I dislike is being away from home. My home is about fifty miles from Springfield, in a small town. My father is a physician and is away from home a great deal. My uncle and he also run a store—hardware, dry goods, and groceries, and drugs also.

I cannot boast of our beautiful country, but it's a healthy place. I have a nice little pony and buggy and can drive or ride where I want to, and would take you driving, Uncle Charlie, if you were here.

I play the piano and guitar. My music teacher is a fine musician, having finished her music in Germany. I can cook also. I help mama with all the work when I am at home. Uncle Charlie, I sure can make dandy chocolate pies. I had a P. C. from a U. S. sailor boy, a short time ago and appreciated it very much. I have a warm place in my heart for those boys. I have a schoolmate and friend on the U. S. S. Virginia. Some of them have mothers, sisters and sweethearts who long for them at home.

Uncle Charlie, I want to congratulate you on your talk in the September-number on perfection—it hit me just right and to my idea. The talk in the October issue was good too. I am going to send for Uncle Charlie's book of poems as I want to know the real history of his life. I would be pleased to hear from any of the cousins and will do my best to answer those who write. Wishing you all a Happy New Year, I am your niece,

AVIS, I think you are a very fortunate girl to (CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.)

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BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

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The Best Breed of Geese

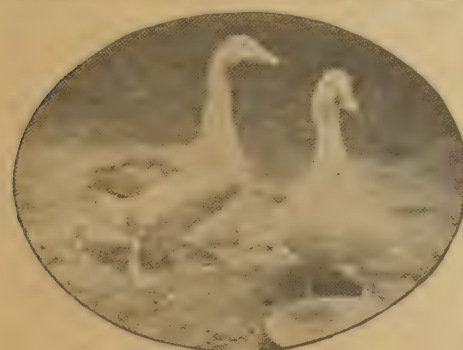
NEARLY everyone interested in poultry makes an attempt to have fairly good hens of some one breed nowadays, but the number of undersized geese one sees is appalling. In many instances, the ordinary farm goose is not larger than the ordinary Pekin duck. Ducks mature in one year, geese take two, so this one reason alone should be sufficient to make people realize that it is no use keeping geese unless they are really good stock. The pure breeds are Toulouse, Embden, African and China; lastly the Canadian wild goose. The first-named is very large, and gray in color. The second is larger, and white in color. The African (sometimes called Indian) are about the same size as the two former, but brown in color; the standard weight for the three breeds being twenty pounds for males, eighteen for females. Chinese geese are much smaller, the gander not weighing more than sixteen pounds, the goose not over fourteen pounds. There are both brown and white varieties. The Canadian wild goose is still lighter; males fourteen pounds, females twelve, and have black heads, necks and tails. Faces brownish in color, with a band of white around the lower half of the neck; the rest of the body grayish-brown. Canadian ganders are easily domesticated, and they are often kept to breed with the domestic goose, usually of the African variety, the progeny from such a cross being highly prized in city markets, as a delicacy far superior to other geese, and much resembling the canvas-back duck; therefore they command a much higher price. The accepted term for these cross-bred geese is "mongrels." Of course when we use the word mongrels in reference to chickens or animals, it is understood to mean a mixture of several breeds or varieties, but amongst the goose-breeders and marketmen it means only the progeny of the wild gander and the domestic goose. It is a branch of goose-raising which is, as a rule, only undertaken by veterans in the business, and to a limited extent, as the mongrel is of no use for stock, being, in fact, mules. Mr. G. H. Pollard, one of the largest goose-breeders in this country, thinks the Embden united the good qualities of the other two large breeds, without any of their failings, and recommends them for general use. Personally I have kept all three breeds, and two different crosses, and like the pure-bred Embden best, as they have size, grow quickly, fatten easily, have white feathers, and dress well for market. Geese are such long-lived creatures that it is well to start with really good stock, especially as they remain profitable breeders for many years. In olden times a goose was often part of a maid's wedding-dower, and passed from one generation to another, like a bird exhibited at the New Jersey State Fair, in 1859, and her history, on a placard posted on the coop, read as follows: "Madam Goose is now owned by Robert Schomp, of Readington, Hunterdon County, N. J. She has been in his possession twenty-five years, and was given to him by his grandfather Major H. G. Schomp. Robert's father is now in his eighty-fifth year, and this goose was a gift to his mother as a part of her marriage outfit. The mate of Madam Goose was killed in the Revolutionary war, being rode over by a troop of cavalry. In the spring of 1857 she laid six eggs, three of which were hatched, and the goslings raised. In 1858 she made seven nests and laid but two eggs, evidence perhaps of failing faculties. Her eyes are becoming dim, one having almost entirely failed. The year of her birth cannot be known, but she remains a representative of the olden time."

Another reason for commencing with the best breeds one can afford is the faithful nature of the goose family. Change of mates or place upsets them so seriously that it should be avoided, and when it has to be done, make the change in the early fall, so that they will have time to settle down before the breeding season.

The following summary of important points in goose-raising was published a few years ago in one of the poultry papers:

Geese only one year old are not mature as breeders. The females lay a less number of eggs, of smaller size, and a greater proportion is usually infertile than is generally the case with females two or three years old.

Geese are naturally timid, watchful, and easily frightened, but the ganders, during the breeding



GEESSE NOT MUCH LARGER THAN DUCKS.

season, and in defense of their young are bold and courageous to a remarkable degree. They have many peculiarities which the breeder who would be successful should carefully study. They should be gently and kindly treated at all times. Water for bathing purposes is highly desirable during the breeding season in order to insure a large per cent. of fertile eggs.

The goose is naturally a grazing animal. The bill is provided with sharp, interlocking, serrated edges, designed to easily cut and divide vegetable tissues, and the tongue at the tip is covered with hard, hair-like projections, pointing toward the throat, which serve to quickly and surely convey the bits of grass and leaves into the throat. Goslings make the greater part of their growth upon grasses or fodder plants, although, of course, they do not make the rapid growth that may be secured when some grain is fed; on the other hand, however, it is not possible,

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probably, to raise goslings on an exclusive grain diet without a liberal supply of clover, cabbage, roots, apples, or some succulent vegetable food. Young goslings make the most rapid growth upon short nutritious grass and cracked corn or wheat.

The goose has practically no crop, although an enlargement of the end of the gullet next theizzard in some measure serves to hold food, consequently it feeds at very frequent intervals, and during warm weather often eats more at

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night than during the daytime, a point which should be remembered in feeding and caring for them.

In cold climates shelter during severe weather should be provided, to guard against frozen feet. During the breeding season the liberal feeding of a nutritious ration, not too fattening, has a beneficial effect on egg production. Green food, ground oyster-shells, grit and charcoal should be provided.

Two or three litters of eggs may be secured by "breaking up" the goose by shutting her up in a pen for a few days when broody, and setting the eggs under hens. A good-sized hen will cover five eggs, a goose from nine to thirteen eggs. Twenty-eight to thirty days' incubation is required for hatching.

An English writer and breeder says: "I am convinced beyond question after many trials, that the finest geese are those procurable from a cross between the Embden and the Toulouse; and I much prefer the whole of the geese to be thoroughbred Embdens, and the gander an equally pure Toulouse. By this cross, birds of great frame are procurable, and under constant high feeding, of weights far beyond those of either of the parents producing them. I have, as a rule, between Michaelmas and Christmas, killed birds of the same year thus bred, the geese being from seventeen to twenty pounds each, and the ganders from twenty-two to twenty-six pounds. It must be kept in mind such goslings were not excessively fattened, as the weights might suggest to some persons, but rather like Shropshire sheep, more remarkable for the immense quantity of flesh they carried than their obesity. The flavor of these cross-breeds is remarkably mild and fine. These first cross goslings, must, however, not be retained as future stock birds, for they themselves produce young of very inferior size by throwing back (reversion). The rule to be observed is, breed continuously (year after year) from the same old stock, which are purely descended, and kill off annually all the cross prod-

LAST OFFER of women's and children's consolation prizes this month. Enter now and win a March prize besides earning a nice premium.

uce for table or market purposes. It will be found to be much preferable for the gander to be a Toulouse and the geese Embdens than reversing the sexes, as they breed larger-framed and heavier-fleshed birds, which is a most important feature." This cross produces heavy birds for Thanksgiving or Christmas, but is not so good for early maturity as a reverse mating would secure.

The cross-breeding of geese is a very simple and practical question as compared with the cross-breeding of fowls. In order that one may be provided with cross-bred cockerels for market and cross-bred pullets for laying stock, one must keep a large flock of pure-bred females of one breed, and a suitable number of males from another. But as this pure-bred stock must be renewed about once in two years, one is under the necessity of buying pure-bred eggs or chickens, or of keeping breeding pens of two pure breeds in order to have stock for the production of first crosses. No such difficulty is presented in the raising of cross-bred geese, because the breeding stock is so long-lived that it need seldom be replaced.

Correspondence

L. L. M.—I have several last-year birds which have scales all over the lower part of the body and legs. I have used sulphur ointment, but it has not helped them. They are not dirty, for I powder them regularly and use a liquid vermin mixture on the perches. Can't you tell me what it is, and what will help them? Have had two with blistered feet. Have been using lime on the perching-boards lately. Do you think that has anything to do with it? A.—I think the lime explains it, or the lime-killer might be to blame if you paint the roosts late in the afternoon, and the birds get on them before they are dry. You don't say that the lime is air-slaked. Even when lime has been in open barrels, or in a large heap, it is not always safe to use it for poultry, because its own weight may have packed it so closely that the inner parts may have been protected from the air, and still retain the burning quality of fresh lime. For that reason I prefer sawdust or old land-plaster. Try rubbing fresh unsalted lard and vasoline on the birds, or washing in warm milk.

M. S. C.—Can you tell me what causes the loss of feathers on my hens? They look as if they were broken or eaten off, some on their necks, but most on the lower part of their backs.

A.—The cause is a small parasite insect. As soon as the weather will permit, clean and disinfect the chicken-house by giving it a thorough whitewashing. Put a cup of kerosene oil and an ounce of crude carbolic acid into each pailful of lime wash, which should be mixed with boiling water and applied whilst hot. Get some creosote ointment; bathe the birds affected with a solution of permanganate of potassium, and when dry, rub in the ointment. Repeat the treatment three or four times, five or six days between the applications.

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FOURTH PRIZE	\$1.00	W. Wesley Ketterjohn, Henderson, Ky.
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To each of the following ten persons 50 cents each: Mrs. Jno. Jeffries, Porterville, Calif. Mrs. Jacob Hare, Green Bay, Wis. Miss Mary Swell, Doham Ala. Miss Katie L. Marsh, Edgerton, Mo. Mrs. G. H. Phillips, Jackson, Mich. Ruby L. Simpson, Orlahaven, Maine. Mrs. J. H. Sipe, Harrison, Ohio. Florence Ross, Waverly, Ohio. Mrs. S. C. Kirk, Oregon City, Oregon. M. Louise Slingerland, Jerusalem, N. Y.

I, M.—I got an incubator, and the instructions say, "Place the extra tray over the eggs. Reverse the position of the trays by turning completely over, so that the eggs are left in the extra tray, and all the trouble of turning eggs individually is removed." What does it mean? They say, too, that it should be done every day, and that the eggs must be left out of the machine to cool every day. Won't such tricks spoil the eggs? Hens don't turn the eggs or push them out of the nest to cool.

A.—You had better look up some of the back numbers of COMFORT, and study the poultry department. There have been several articles on incubation. Hens do turn eggs, pushing them over with their beaks, and though they don't turn the eggs out of the nest to cool, they do leave the nest to feed, and during that time the eggs are being cooled. Unless eggs are turned, or partly turned, every twenty-four hours, during incubation, the embryo chick is liable to stick to one side of the shell, and develop unevenly, the result being deformed chicks.

M. L. O.—Please give a good recipe for lice powder to make at home. A.—You had better buy the ready-mixed powder. It is as cheap as anything you can make at home, and much better. Dalmatian or Persian insect-powder is very effective, and quite cheap.

School Teacher.—May I trouble you for a little advice? I am a school teacher have been in very poor health for several years. The doctor says I need outdoor exercise. My sister and I own a small farm near a large hotel and summer colony, and have some money in the bank—not a great deal, but enough to make us comfortably independent, if we can make enough on the place to pay our living expenses. Now, what I want you to tell me is, do you think two women could manage to make those expenses from hens? Would the work be too hard? I am forty-two years old; my sister is a widow of forty, with a boy of ten. Please tell me exactly what you think.

A.—I like to be of use to all our readers, when possible, but it is difficult to advise strangers on such a matter, because personality has so much to do with success. But judging from my own experience I cannot conceive it possible for any woman of ordinary common sense and strength, to fail. You are comparatively young, have no rent to pay, money to start with, and a market close at hand. My only caution is, don't risk a great deal of capital until you are sure the work will interest you, for interest, and a liking for animals, have much to do with the success of such an undertaking. Start with, say, fifty hens, Plymouth Rocks, White Wyandottes, or Rhode Island Reds, and an incubator that will hold one hundred and twenty or one hundred and sixty eggs; two brooders, and a small handmill for crushing green bone, all of which can be purchased for about one hundred and twenty-five dollars, and will give you a substantial foundation from which you should be able to build up a profitable business if you have any aptitude for the work.

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And Squabs. Tells how to start in small and grow big. Describes largest pure-bred Poultry Farm in the world and gives a great mass of useful information about poultry. Lowest prices on fowls, eggs, incubators and brooders. Mailed for 4c. F. Foy, Box 2, Des Moines, Iowa.

48 BREEDS Fine pure bred chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys. Northern raised, hardy and very beautiful. Largest poultry farm in the Northwest. Fowls, eggs and incubators at low prices. Send 4 cents for fine 80-page 16th Annual Poultry Book. R. F. NEUBERT, Box 793, Mankato, Minn.

Ironclad

Galvanized iron. Fireproof. Hot water, copper tanks, double walls. Freight prepaid. Guaranteed. Get catalogue—save money. AMERICAN BROODER CO., Box 37, Racine, Wis.

\$1.00 A MONTH BUYS THIS SEWING MACHINE.

We will sell you a high-grade, drop-head, Sew Easy Sewing Machine for \$1.00 a month. We guarantee each machine for ten years. We ship direct from the factory. We do not sell to stores and we have no agents. We can save you fully one-half and it only costs you about 3 cents a day. We have many special features in our machine such as short needles which don't break easily. Our shuttles hold half again as much thread as the old spring tension shuttle. We can't tell all the good points in this advertisement, and we couldn't afford to send you a machine on the small dollar a month plan unless we gave big value and low prices. We want you to write us today, saying: "Please send me circulars and full particulars about your 'dollar a month' Sewing Machine offer." Write Today. Address: SHEFFIELD MFG. CO., Dept. 21, 1421 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo.

Handy Arrangements To Make for the Home

About Clothing Closets

A CONVENIENT, spacious clothes-closet is a "joy forever," and by a little ingenuity you can utilize what space you have in a way that will greatly increase its holding capacity. USING ROD FOR HANGERS.—You will economize space by putting a horizontal wooden pole or rod—which may be either round or square—lengthwise or across your closet, its location depending on the shape of closet. Fasten securely at each end and fill this rod with hangers for your coats and waists, leaving a space at one end for hanging trousers that have been correctly folded, that is, folded by the creases in the legs. This is the very best method of keeping the "press-in" and their own weight prevents the bagging at knee, if, as soon as taken off they are hung over rod.

MAKING HANGERS.—If in the matter of hangers you wish to economize, an excellent one is easily made by taking a piece of barrel hoop sixteen inches long and covering with cloth by tacking a two-inch strip fastening to one end, winding it tightly around and around until you reach the other end, where it is again securely fastened. Take a piece of any kind of good smooth wire about eight inches long and bend one end securely around the exact center of hanger, while the other end is bent in the form of an open loop that will hang over the rod. Wind an extra piece of cloth around hanger at center to prevent wire tearing the clothing. Or the wire may be adjusted first and the whole piece of hoop and wire covered at the same time.

SKIRT HANGERS.—A device which keeps the skirts in perfect shape is made by taking a good-sized safety-pin, and into the little round end either sew or tie a tape leaving both ends about four inches long which are lapped one inch and strongly sewed together, as all the weight comes on these loops. To use skirt-hanger, fasten belt, and bring center front and back together, and through the double belt, a few inches from the center on either side, fasten a safety pin. Where the closet is very shallow, several pins may hang from the same hooks, bringing one skirt over the other without injuring them.

COVERING WALLS.—Clothing is often soiled by hanging against the closet wall unless the walls are freshened each spring. For this reason, it is well to hang an old sheet onto the wall by means of loops sewed to one side, and against which the clothing may rest.

CLOSET SHELVES.—Across one end of the closet, put up eighteen inch deep shelves, as many as the space will permit. These will be found invaluable for hats, muffs, gloves, leggings and numerous other small articles of clothing. A shelf across the end resting on the baseboards is useful for boots, slippers, rubbers and overshoes. They will not collect dust as when left on floor, and then the floor is clean, making the sweeping an easy matter.

COVERING CLOSET DOOR.—Every closet should have utility bag on inside of closet door to catch the numerous small things that seem to have no particular abiding place. The following describes one of the most practical and easily made. Take a piece of denim, ticking or drill, thirty inches deep, and wide enough to extend across door to within three inches of each side, forming a bag for the whole nine bags, and make a half inch hem on all four sides. Cut down strips nine inches deep and twelve inches longer than the width of your hemmed bag. Stitch half inch hem in top of each strip; turn under ends and lower edge of each strip; one half inch; divide each strip into three equal parts, also width of bag. Bring corresponding divisions together, which will give you about eight inches of back to twelve of strip for each section or bag, and this extra four inches is made into a box-plait which gives holding room in pocket. The lower row of pockets should come even with the lower edge of bag, while the remaining two rows are placed equal distances apart. Stitch sides, across bottom of each row, and between each pocket twice, leaving quarter of an inch between rows of stitching for strength.

A GOOD SUBSTITUTE FOR A CLOSET.—Where there is no closet room, a good substitute in a mantle effect is practical and may be made to compare favorably with other furnishings. Three pieces of board are necessary, one for each end measuring five feet high by fourteen inches wide. On top of these, forming a shelf, is a board fifteen inches wide by five feet long. Nail onto two ends, allowing shelf to project one inch over ends and front edge. To give it strength, nail four, three inch wide strips to back one foot apart. On the underside of front edge of shelf, place three screw-eyes, one at each end and one at center to receive rod or wire (which will



A PRACTICAL AND ATTRACTIVE CLOSET.

FOR THE CLOSET DOOR, OF WHICH SPEAKING IS BEING. On the underside of shelf, put in the following: a board fifteen inches wide by five feet long. Nail onto two ends, allowing shelf to project one inch over ends and front edge. To give it strength, nail four, three inch wide strips to back one foot apart. On the underside of front edge of shelf, place three screw-eyes, one at each end and one at center to receive rod or wire (which will

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is shorter, so that when the window is raised the curtain will raise with it. The curtain will look better close to the glass, and when the window is opened, it is not left to blow, become damp and soiled.

Ready Grown Hat-tree

A place to hang the numerous wraps, hats and caps which find their way into the kitchen is often a problem. In one instance this was solved in a way, that was both unique and practical. A white birch sapling was brought from the pasture, measuring seven and a half feet high, and well filled with strong branches. These were neatly trimmed to a good length, on which the clothing was hung. Bore five slanting holes into butt and drive in short legs upon which the hat-tree may stand. Or the legs may be sawed off slanting and nailed to butt. This may be moved to kitchen, shed or porch, wherever convenient. To make this hat-tree would be a good piece of work for the boys in the family and a test of skill.

MEMORANDA SLATE.—In some convenient place in the kitchen, hang a slate with pencil attached with string, upon which memoranda of errands to be done, groceries to be ordered, engagements to be met, and other things to be remembered may be written.

Save all your loosely twisted cotton twine such as comes from the grocers and crochet into dish-cloths. Use a loose, plain stitch and make sixteen inches square. They are soft, do not lint, wear well and are easily cleansed.

Empty lard pails make the best kind of receptacles for dry groceries, such as split peas, beans, tea, coffee, rice, etc. Thoroughly cleanse by filling with strong soda and boiling one hour. Then fill with clear water and boil a few minutes. Wipe and dry well. Keep a row on your pantry shelf with labels of contents pasted on.

To prevent meat loaves from breaking, cut a thin piece of board to fit bottom of pan used to press in, and under this pass three strings equal distances apart and long enough to fall well over edges. Fill with meat and when cold, run thin bladed knife around edges, gather ends of strings in hand and with a slight upward pressure you will remove meat in perfect shape.

A bag hung in a convenient place in the kitchen to catch the children's mittens and gloves or other small articles as they come in from school will save many a hunt, and at the same time teach them orderly habits. One that is always open is the best and can be made over an embroidery hoop or strong piece of wire. The bag is easily made by sewing together any stout piece of cloth which may be finished at bottom by gathering to a point.

Table of Weights and Measures

It is often difficult to remember weights and measures and the following cut out or copied onto a strong piece of paper and tacked to inside of kitchen closet door will prove of great value:

Two cups of granulated sugar.....	one pound
Two cups of solid butter.....	one pound
Four cups of flour.....	one pound
Four cups of liquid.....	one quart
Twelve tablespoonfuls of dry material.....	one cup
Sixteen tablespoonfuls of liquid.....	one cup
Three teaspoonfuls of dry material.....	one tablespoonful
Four teaspoonfuls of liquid.....	one tablespoonful
Four pints of dry measure.....	one bushel
Eight gallons.....	one bushel
Eight quarts.....	one peck
Four quarts.....	one gallon
Thirty-one and one half to 36 gallons.....	one barrel
Sixteen ounces avoirdupois.....	one pound
Twelve ounces troy.....	one pound

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

I will return all favors, as far as possible. If any who knew me in Norway see this, please write. I lived in Drammen; my maiden name was Larsen. Will close now with my best wishes and prayer for blessings for Uncle Charlie and the noble work he and the whole Coonrod family are doing. May God also bless the shut-ins and all who read these words.

Mrs. HERMINE HANSEN, 13 Dwight St., Ansonia, Conn.

DEAR SISTERS: I have been a silent reader of COMFORT for eight years or more. And could not do without it. I enjoy it all, from cover to cover. There is always something in every letter to help some person along.

I have dark complexion with brown hair and eyes, five feet and four inches tall, weigh ninety-eight pounds. I am twenty-six years old, and have been married nearly six years. My husband, who is one of the best living, is a traveling dentist. I get lonely sometimes while he is away. We have one dear little girl Glenn, two years old. We own a nice little house here. Lawrenceburg is a beautiful place, with two thousand inhabitants. Everything up to date since we have our electric lights. Come over sisters and I'm sure you'll be pleased, so many northern people are coming here.

Miss Virginia Hodges. Your letter was interesting. I would have enjoyed seeing your night blooming cereus. It must have been fascinating to watch it.

I send two recipes I want all to try. Would like to receive letters, especially from readers who bear the name of Glenn. A well wisher.

Mrs. NELLIE GLENN MOMACKIN, Lawrenceburg, Tenn.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

May I step in and chat a while? I am just a farmer's wife and have been a reader of COMFORT for three years. I certainly do enjoy its many pages. I read every one and sometimes cry at the ones. We farmer wives haven't much time for reading, like our northern sisters. I have three children, one girl and two boys. My oldest is five years old and baby is one year old. I do my housework and also help in the field. Crops were very short here this last year, but are commanding a fair price. A renter here has a hard time trying to get ahead and to buy a home. I would not advise anyone to come to Texas without plenty of money to establish himself, for land is high and is going higher and the time is soon past when a poor man can buy a home. Sisters, please write and send me a sure remedy for getting rid of the little sticking fleas for they are a bad pest to poultry and to everything else they get a chance to bite.

Mrs. T. J. CLENDENEN, Mullin, Texas.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I hail from Michigan and know nothing about any other state or country. I have three children, a boy and two girls. My oldest child is a boy of ten and girl of three. Uncle Charlie affords more than ten of amusement, how jolly and bright he is. And the good he does? I try to send a few tiny rays to lonely, distressed ones. I feel that I am a very, very insignificant person, but I am doing what I can.

Ethel V. McKee.—Did you get a card from me on

I am a mother of three children, a boy and two girls. My oldest child is a boy of ten and girl of three. Uncle Charlie affords more than ten of amusement, how jolly and bright he is. And the good he does? I try to send a few tiny rays to lonely, distressed ones. I feel that I am a very, very insignificant person, but I am doing what I can.

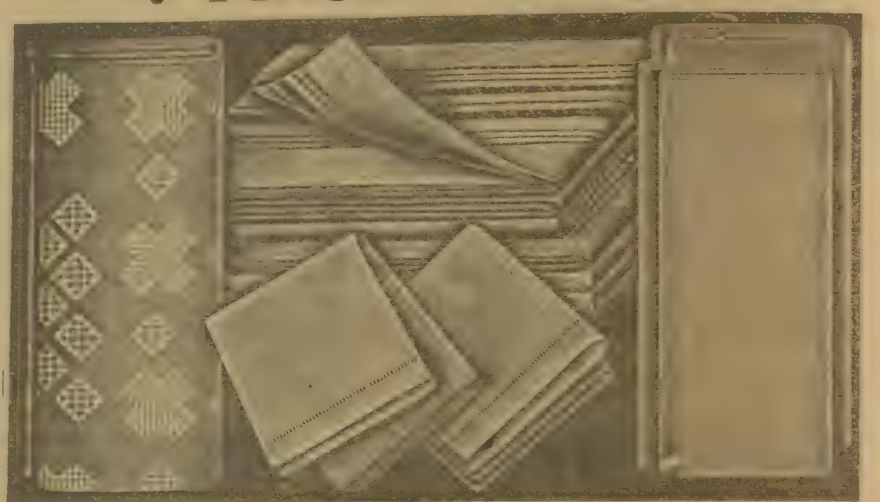
As infantile paralysis is becoming so common this year, I thought I would write a few lines to you. I have a son who is now four years old and he has been afflicted with this disease. He is now recovering, but it was a very hard time for me. I hope you will be able to help some other mother in the same way.

How many know that to steep common sumac,

charge pressed, and put in a glass of water, and let it stand for a few days, and then drink it, will cure the disease.

Dr. W. O. Coffey, Dept. 333, Des Moines, Ia.

FREE! To every Lady Reader this Beautiful and Durable 7-PIECE BED SET



Consists of 2 Blankets, 2 Bleached Sheets, 2 Bleached Pillow Cases and 1 Bed Spread—All Full Size Pieces

Here is an opportunity whereby every woman in the United States can get this useful, expensive, 7-piece Bed Set, Absolutely Free. This Bed Set consists of 2 Blankets, 2 Bleached Sheets, 2 Bleached Pillow Cases and 1 large, White Bed Spread—7 full size pieces in all. All we ask is, that you sell a few cans of our Perfection Baking Powder and the Bed Set is yours. You can realize how easily, and with what little effort you can do this, for a full size, cut glass pattern pitcher and 6 glasses are included with each can of Baking Powder, etc., in our offer No. 420. But this is not all. To every lady who sends in her name and address right away we will give in addition, as a Special Premium, Absolutely Free, the handsomely designed Parlor Lamp described opposite, with first order. You simply can't realize what a big offer this is until you see these beautiful premiums.



This Parlor Lamp FREE

We are determined to push our Baking Powder to the front and to get you to help us. We will send with your first order this handsome Decorated Parlor Lamp and it will not cost you a penny. Remember we will send the Lamp in addition to the Bed Set. This Parlor Lamp is 17 in. high with 8 in. decorated globe and all trimmings polished brass. These Lamps are going fast and if you want one write quick.

No Money Necessary. You risk absolutely nothing. We will pay all freight charges and ship you the Baking Powder and send your Premium with the Baking Powder, and also send the Glass Pitcher and Six Glasses all together, and then we give you time to deliver and collect before remitting to us.

While it is on your mind, cut out coupon, write your name and address on same, so you can get our big Special Premium; also free our Mammoth Catalog and Premium List.

Fill Out and Mail Coupon Today

HAGOOD MFG. CO.

343 N. Commercial St., St. Louis, Mo.

Gentlemen: Without cost to me, please send at once your Big Free Offer.

Name.....

Post Office.....

County..... State.....

strain and boil the syrup down with sugar in an excellent cure for cough and colds. A few drops of peppermint can be added if desired.

Miss Christine Nelson, Spear, N. C.—I must tell you I have a near neighbor by your name; she's from Sweden too, and I will have her write to you in Swedish if you would like to hear from her.

I will like to get some letters and also some bleached muslin squares twelve by twelve with sender's name and address worked in red.

Mrs. C. VAN LIEREN, Luther, Mich.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Will you admit a sister from California? I have lived in a suburb of Oakland since 1905. Was living seven miles from San Francisco during the never-to-be-forgotten morning of April 18, 1906. Prior to that time I lived in the country many miles from a doctor, so I want to tell the sisters of a few of my home remedies. How many live where the Australian blue gum grows? Tea made from the leaves of this tree will cure malaria, chills and fever, also is a fine remedy for the kidneys. The leaves used hot in a bag is good to relieve the pain and soreness caused by rheumatism. The tea also makes a fine wash for the hair, removes dandruff, stops the hair falling and cures itching scalp. One will not take cold after washing the hair with it.

How many of the sisters know that when giving Castor oil, if they will mix lemon juice with it, it can be taken by the most delicate stomach.

My remedy for diarrhea is a few drops of spirits of camphor, half teaspoonful of ground nutmeg, half cup of hot water sweetened. Repeat every hour or so if very bad. Use hot cloths on the bowels.

To cure blood poison, if it is in the hand or foot, put it in hot water, as hot as the flesh will stand and keep hot. To one quart of water add half teaspoonful carbolic acid. If need be, keep the affected part soaking for hours, or until the swelling is reduced. Follow this by applications of a good ointment and keep bandaged until well. In case hot water cannot be used, wring cloths out of the above solution and apply hot. I am very much interested in the cure of tuberculosis. Will answer all letters.

Mrs. M. J. WORTHINGTON, Box 308, Elmhurst, Cal.

DEAR SISTERS:

I am a rancher's wife, was twenty-four years old the first month of this new year, and am the mother of two sweet little girls, baby one year and sister four.

We live on a ranch of four hundred and forty acres, three and a half miles from Encampment. It is a very beautiful and prosperous valley and a very good place for anyone if they have a little money to invest as we will clear between three and four thousand dollars this year.

Our principal crops are native hay, alfalfa and grain. Grain sells from one dollar and forty-seven cents to three dollars per one hundred pounds, and weighs from thirty-seven to fifty-two pounds to the bushel. Hay sells from five dollars to twenty dollars per ton.

A large canal is being built at present that will irrigate thousands of acres of land east and south of us a few miles.

We have our own independent ditch for our land and have an abundance of water at all times.

This is quite a mining district, also. There is a smelter in the town and a Southern and one half long-distance telephone and an always good to get the mail to see if there are any letters or post cards. As I have no relatives nearer than Kansas, we have decided to sell and move nearer our parents. We are getting old and need it. If any wish to know more of this country I will be glad to answer.

Mrs. EMMA WAGONER, Encampment, Wyo.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I hope the sisters have not forgotten me. I wrote about three years ago and offered to teach anyone (CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)

I Treat Eyes Free

For fifteen days. If you do not wish to continue, costs you nothing. I am curing weak eyes, sore eyes, granulated lids, wild hairs, catarrhs, weasels, and eye diseases and a feature of sight.

I will send a full course of my treatment with each eye and ear, and charge nothing, and will cure you.

Dr. W. O. Coffey, Dept. 333, Des Moines, Ia.

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Dr. W. O. Coffey, Dept. 333, Des Moines, Ia.

20 Beautiful Colored Post Cards Free

Every woman who sends 6 cents in stamps for a copy of McCall's Magazine, "Spring Pattern Catalogue," and "Book of Premiums" will also receive 20, all different, exquisite Post Cards without cost. This wonderful offer is made to get you McCall's MAGAZINE

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THE HAIR AND MASSAGES THE SCALP.

The greatest modern invention for keeping the hair beautiful and fluffy and the scalp clean, healthy and free from dandruff or dirt. Keep the scalp clean and properly massaged and nature will grow the hair. Write for free circular.

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and CHAIN WEIGHING

GIVE TO BOYS

and GIRLS A BEAUTIFUL

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This magnificent French Curl Ostrich Plume is 17 inches in length, made of the highest quality ostrich feathers, selected from the male bird. Has a very glossy fiber and is extra wide, with heavy drooping head. It is used by the Plume on approval. Send us 15c to pay express charges, and we will send you this beautiful Plume in black, white or colors, to your express office C. O. D. with privilege of examination. If satisfactory pay the express agent \$1.45 and the Plume is yours. If, on examination, you do not think this the most marvelous value you ever saw, if you can duplicate your dealer for less than \$5.00, tell the express agent to return the Plume to us and we will refund your 15c. Or, if you prefer to send the full amount, \$1.95, we will send the Plume immediately. Express prepaid, and if not satisfactory we will promptly refund your money. We take all the risk.

SPECIAL FULL 18-INCH OSTRICH PLUME. 2.28
BLACK AND COLORS AT 5.00
EXTRA—Our Superfine 19-inch French Curl Plume combines quality, size and width. Made of rich glossy hard-due fibers with extra heavy drooping French head, price \$5.00. For complete line of Ostrich Feathers, including bargains in Willow Plumes, write for free catalogue.

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THE OSTRICH PLUME HOUSE OF AMERICA

No More Fat Folks

Double Chins Quickly Removed
If the advice of Mae Edna Wilder is followed there will be no more fat folks in a short time. She took off 30 pounds of superfluous flesh in less than six weeks, and removed her double chin in two weeks, by a treatment of her own discovery, and she generously offers to tell anyone about it who is sufficiently interested to write her. By her method there is nothing to take internally, no face straps or body bandages to be worn, no exercises or dieting, just a simple, harmless home treatment that you can use in your own room without the knowledge of your most intimate friends, and as if by magic, your fat rapidly disappears without inconvenience to you of any kind. She has written a book intensely interesting to fleshy people, and she will give away ten thousand copies absolutely free. The book tells all about her wonderful treatment, and she sends with it sworn affidavits to back up her claims. It costs you nothing to find out about this treatment, and if you have a large bust, large hips, large abdomen, a double chin or superfluous flesh on any part of the body, and wish to get rid of it quickly, write her at once for a copy of the free book before the present edition is exhausted, and you will be agreeably surprised and pleased with what she sends you.

Her address is
Mae Edna Wilder, Suite 33, Rochester, N. Y.

DUTCH COLLAR OR BELT PIN With Your Initial



These pins are made of a solid piece of German Silver, heavy Satin Silver Finish, with raised bright polished letters and scroll. (Illustration is exact size.) They were manufactured by us to sell for 25 cents, but we have decided to use them as a leader to advertise our other goods. Simply send us your name and full address also the initial you want, with 4 two-cent stamps to pay mailing and advt. expenses, we will send you one of these beautiful pins by return mail free.

Best Silver Co., Dept. C-7, 88 Chambers St., New York City.

THIS KITCHEN CABINET \$1.50
75c monthly—total price \$3.75. Seasoned hard wood, oak front. 61-2 feet high. Base 44x25 inches. We have 3000 just such bargains for you. And all
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You use and enjoy the goods now—pay as you can. 30 DAYS GUARANTEED FREE TRIAL. Send at once for our big illustrated catalogue. It's FREE to you.

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Does away with pressing. Saves room in clothespress. Once adjusted the skirt is ready for packing. **10c EACH 3 FOR 25c.**
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PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM
Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Removes dandruff, itching, and restores the hair to its youthful color. Cures scalp diseases and hair falling. Sold and bottled by all druggists.

AGENTS MAKE \$75 TO \$100 PER MONTH
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Conducted by Katherine Booth

Try to Improve Your Nose

THIS year is the time when ugly noses are going to look uglier and pretty noses prettier than ever before. The reason for this is plain. Large hats are the rule. Hats that conceal the fluffy hair, white forehead and sparkling eyes of womanhood—but not their noses. This of course makes the nose the feature of the face, and equally of course such undue prominence exaggerates the defects or charm of the nose. It is really rather hard on the nose to have to be beautiful for the rest of the face, but such is fashion, and of course all you girls are determined to be in the style.

After buying your large spring hat, Miss Big Eyes, resolve to coddle your nose until it becomes just as beautiful as a self-respecting nose would care to be. If you do this you can wear a large hat with impunity and look mysteriously pretty in it. I say "mysteriously pretty" because with your eyes, hair and forehead in the shadow of a broad-brimmed hat, you will certainly look mysterious, and, equally of course, if you are a Comfort girl, you will look pretty—that goes without saying!

Wouldn't you like to see your nose become as pretty as pretty can be? Some people claim that the nose has no beauty, but we know better, don't we? A nose can mar or make beauty. Pretty you cannot be if your nose is crooked or fat or emaciated or red or pimply or a thousand other things. Don't be frightened, girls, be-



LATE HOURS GIVE ONE A RED NOSE.

cause these troubles aren't as serious as they sound.

Let us begin by giving a hint to the mischievous girl with a saucy up-turned nose. She feels very unhappy over it and longs for a Grecian effect, little knowing that her up-tilted nose is really very cute and gives her a kind of unique prettiness. If she just won't be satisfied with her nose, and still sighs for one that is "icily regular, splendidly null" she must try pinching it lightly, drawing her little pink fingers downward over the tip. Be very careful not to bruise the flesh. When giving this treatment stroke both sides at once. Unless you do this, the nose will become one-sided, as it is easily drawn out of shape. It is a pity that it is not so easily drawn into shape, but daily massage of the refractory tip will in time cause it to behave itself.

The starved, pinched-looking nose is very unpleasant to look upon and gives its owner a hungry appearance that is distinctly unbecoming. Hasten to remedy this defect by laying warm cloths over the nose for a minute or two. After this, dip a soft cloth in warm cow's cream and pat it down on the bony member. In a minute dip the cloth in the cream again and lay on the nose. Keep this up for fifteen minutes and do it every day. The desired flesh will come slowly but surely.

Perhaps the most disfiguring blemish to an otherwise pretty face is a "jolly red nose." Such a nose can be caused by late hours, and the woman who loves to sit up until midnight, whether at home or at a party, may lay her red nose to late hours.

On the other hand, a great many glowing noses are caused by tight lacing or impurities of the stomach. If the latter is the case, it is a splendid idea to take a teaspoonful of powdered charcoal for three mornings every six weeks.

Eating of sweets is forbidden to red-nosed girls, as also the drinking of vinegar. Poor thing, she has to be very particular, or her crimson nose will flame worse than ever.

Every night and morning a well-known woman doctor suggests applying tannic acid in glycerine (twenty grains of the tannic acid to one ounce of glycerine) to the nose. This she says will relieve superficial redness.

Nearly all of us at one time or another have known what it is to possess an aggressively shiny greasy nose and have been made decidedly miserable in consequence. All the girls troubled in this way should try washing the obstinately oily nose with corn meal or almond meal in place of soap, as this removes all appearance of oiliness.

Should blackheads conglomerate on the nose, cover it with soap jelly, and after washing it off, press out the blackheads with a watch-key, placing the aperture in the key directly over the black point. Do not press down too hard, or this will leave a tiny black-and-blue spot, and you don't want that. As you remove each blackhead, touch the spot with alcohol, as this contracts the open pores. The best way to do this is to wrap a thin piece of cotton cloth around the blunt end of a match dip it in the alcohol and then apply to the open pore. This enables you to place the alcohol directly on the pore and not on the surrounding skin. It is just as, while doing this to use a hand mirror and take plenty of time.

When brisk cool winds cause the nose to shrivel and turn a blue-white, it is well before going out into the elements to bathe the nose in a basin of water made milky with tincture of benzoin. After the nose has been patted dry, massage for a moment with cold cream, fluff on some powder and then you are with your pretty nose as comfortable as can be and not at all afraid of cool breezes or changing temperature.

Do you sometimes indulge in spells of bad temper? Don't do it, because the nose is extremely susceptible to fits of ill humor, and with its minute muscles writes in characters plain, every bad-tempered, disdainful or envious thought. Really I have seen noses that fairly snarled and pouted at one in a most human way. Be very careful, all you hot-tempered people, or your noses will tell tales on you.

Last but not least, rest your nose. A great many noses never have a rest. They always look as if they were sniffing or smelling something. This tires the nose muscles. They need a rest. Another thing that constant sniffing does is to spread the nostrils, and this quite ruins a pretty face.

If you have spreading nostrils, it might be well to wear a nose-clip on your nose every night. A thick spreading nose can be made quite shapely in this way. The important point is to have it fit easily without exerting too much pressure. Home-made clips are made out of a bit of wire padded, or perhaps a clothes pin, although it is quite difficult to adjust a clothes pin. If I wanted to be funny, I should say it fits too soon.

Cultivate nose beauty before you invest in a large hat or you'll be sorry.

Questions Answered

Anxious one: Elmitra A., Miss Mollie and Rainbow. —Superfluous hair can be removed by means of the electric needle. If you have blackheads, wash your face every night with hot water and soap, using a rough wash cloth. Add a teaspoonful of powdered borax to the water, as this is cleansing. Once or twice a week, steam the face and rub in boracic powder.

der. If this smart the skin, dab on a little face cream. It wouldn't be a bad idea to scrub your face delicately with a soft soapy nail brush before applying the boracic powder. See reply to Flower of Peru.

Rainbow.—Moisten eyelid edges with warm sesame oil, and your lashes should grow longer. Do not get any oil in the eye itself. Your measurements seem very good. Write again, my dear.

Wisconsin Girl; P. M. M., Elmitra A. and others.—You must cure the pimples before you do anything with the blackheads. Give up eating candy, cake, pie, puddings, etc. Drink two or three quarts of water daily, and keep your bowels active. Take a bath every day. Apply this lotion to the pimples several times a day: Precipitate of sulphur, one dram; tincture of camphor, one dram; rose water, four ounces. Write me if this does not help you.

A. D. A.—See replies to Wisconsin Girl and Miss Mollie. To purify your blood, take sulphur and molasses once a day for ten days.

Eldyth.—See replies to Wisconsin Girl and Miss Mollie. Do not close the pores until you are rid of the blackheads. No, I do not think you could ever take the hot-water cure too long. You must buy almond meal by the pound, not by the box. In the bulk it is cheaper. Any kind of almond meal the drug stores sell ought to be all right. I do not like the cream you mention.

Jessie.—Wear your skirts to your shoe tops, and your hair parted and waved in front and tied in a braid at the back. Wear the braid hanging or tied in a club, but either way, tie with a huge bow of black taffeta ribbon. The ribbon ought to be about four inches wide. See replies to Wisconsin Girl and Miss Mollie. Why do you want to remedy a fair skin and rosy cheeks? Be thankful you have them.

The Flower of Peru and others.—Your weight is about right for your measurements, and as to wearing your hair, I like the way you do it now, but if you want a change wear a flat pompadour for about three inches back from the forehead. Band over it and around head, ribbon about two inches wide—you can weave ribbon in and out of the flat, wavy pompadour if you like—and back of this three inches of flat banded hair, do your locks in high wavy puff, out and up. This style would be becoming to you. I presume you will have a little difficulty in doing this, but practice makes perfect. See reply to Miss Mollie and mop the following lotion on your blackheads, after which bathe the face in hot water and press out the tiny "worm." Carbonate of magnesia, one dram; zinc oxide, one dram; rose water, four ounces.

Miss Lena.—I think for five feet five inches, your weight should be one hundred and thirty-eight pounds. See reply to Miss Mollie and The Flower of Peru.

May P.—See reply to Miss Mollie and Wisconsin Girl. Your measurements, you fortunate girl, are just right. See reply to Flower of Peru.

Dreamland.—See replies to Miss Mollie, Flower of Peru and Wisconsin Girl. Wash your throat in very hot soapy water with a soft nail brush. Rinse and massage with good skin food. Every day practice vigorous arm exercises, holding the arm muscles rigid. Also practice turning the head around to the back as far as you can on one side, then around to the back on the other side as far as you can. You should soon have a pump full throat. See reply to Fannie.

Fannie.—To massage the face, first wash it in very hot soapy water, rinse carefully and spread on skin food. Rub with finger tips across all lines. Massage the cheeks up, and remove crowfeet by massaging around eye, using plenty of skin food and pressing down very delicately. Drink several quarts of milk daily as this will plumpen you. You might bleach your neck with the following hand pomade:

Myrrh, one ounce; honey, four ounces; yellow wax, two ounces; rose water, one ounce; sufficient glycerine to make a spreadable paste.

Do not put this on the face.

Clarie, Happy C. J.—About the only thing to do with a scar is to steam it daily and then massage for ten minutes. In time the mark will fade out. Apply diluted lemon juice to the brown spot, as this ought to bleach it.

Brown-eyed Susan.—Your eyes must be weak, so you probably need glasses. Rest them as much as possible, and bathe them with hot water frequently.



SHAPING A BUMPY NOSE.

I wouldn't do much beautifying now, if I were you. Why not wear the Cuban or military heel? It is high, but sensible. As your hair used to curl, there is hope for you. Try to get it in the habit again by waving it on old curlers at night. To make the roots stronger, massage the scalp for twenty minutes every night. I think you will soon have your hair curling naturally. Yes, your waist is about five inches too big, but don't begin to reduce for four or five months. Why not wear your corset tighter?

Thelma.—Blotch the hair on your arms by daily applications of Peroxide of Hydrogen. See reply to Dreamland and Luke the mole so it is jet black. That makes a pretty contrast to a white throat. Roughness of the skin of the upper arm can be removed by

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scrubbing the arm daily with a nail brush and plenty of hot soapy water. In a few days your skin will be smooth.

Ignorant.—Use the astringent on your face several times a day, unless it irritates the skin. Let the lotion dry in for ten or fifteen minutes before wiping it off.

Isabella.—I am glad you have succeeded in banishing your blackheads and obtaining longer eyelashes. Now if you have constipation, it accounts for your bad (CONTINUED ON PAGE 12.)

"AMOLE ROOT, recommended so highly for the hair by the editor of the Pretty Girls Club in Comfort, can be obtained for \$1.16 per pound, postpaid, by sending to Porterfield Drug Co., Silver City, New Mexico. It has been used by the native people there for generations and they have splendid hair."

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Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25.)

have a father who is a physician. Just fancy cousins, what a lot of fun Avis can have. She can go and get an elegant case of small pox, an exquisitely beautiful attack of typhoid fever, an interesting and exciting dose of pneumonia; she can have two or three legs cut off before breakfast, a bunch of arms amputated after dinner, and two or three wings sliced off after supper; she can contract every blessed disease under the sun, enjoy them all to her heart's content, without ever coughing up a single dollar for doctor's fees. Oh, it must be just lovely to have a doctor for a father! If I only had had as much horse sense as you've got Avis, and had selected a pill shooter and bone sawyer for a father, the money I'd have saved in doctor's bills would build a golden bridge from Frisco to Hong Kong and back. Just imagine cousins the fun Avis must have, watching Mrs. Jones having her appetite amputated, and Bill Smith having his lungs re-upholstered. I'll bet too, if there are any colored gentlemen in Elkton that get carved up in a crap game, that Avis hitches a carpet needle to a telephone wire for the professional members of the family to use in sewing up the rents in Rastus' epidermis. I knew a young lady who was the daughter of a doctor, and she was the most entrancingly beautiful girl ever, and that girl made her father rich. She broke the heart of every man in town. Then the men had to go round to her father and pay ten dollars to have their hearts mended up again and put in good shape. Now, Avis, there is a pointer for you. If people get too infernally healthy in your section, and papa's business lags, just start in and smash a couple of dozen hearts daily and get papa to fix them up at ten dollars a piece. I used to know a country doctor who also ran a grocery and hardware store. When he was not cutting off legs, he was weighing up prunes, butchering cheese, wrestling with molasses, fighting tin pans and jangling with barbed wire and agricultural implements. The trouble was, being unable to give his undivided attention to one line of business, half the time he didn't know whether he was weighing up prunes or cutting off legs. He was a foxy gazook too, and being the only doctor and having the only general store within ten miles, he had no competitors. When he ran short of drugs he used to prescribe hardware and groceries, making one line of business help out the other. If you had a case of dyspepsia, nervous indigestion, pneumonia, typhoid and other fascinating afflictions, he used to write out a prescription for you. Take ten pounds of bacon and a box of salis before meals, twenty pounds of prunes after, and for a tonic a barrel of salt hick and two dozen molasses in a little water every three hours night and day. I told you how I got into business at Frisco, so as to make one help out and feed the other. A doctor who was also a butcher, would make piles of money. I am quite interested, Avis, in your musical accomplishments, and am more than excited over your teacher who finished her music in Germany. There are a good many music teachers around this section, who, I regret to say did not finish their music in Germany, neither have they finished it here, and cannot be induced to finish it even though requested to do so at the point of a gun. I am delighted to know there is a place called Germany where people can go to finish their music. There is a woman across the street from me who yaps: "That will be glory for me," and accompanies herself on the piano with one finger and three feet twenty-five hours every day by the clock. That may be glory for her, but it certainly isn't glory for me. Avis if you could only induce her to follow the example of your teacher and finish her music in Germany for good and forever, I'll love you till the cows come home, and an eternity after. There ought to be a law to banish such people to Germany or finish them here. Glad you like my little talk on perfection. A lot of people have written to tell me they are perfect. One man wrote and told me he was perfect and two days afterward I got a letter from his wife saying he was so perfect that he half starved his family, kept them almost in rags, had a perpetual grinch, and made life so entirely miserable for her that death would almost be preferable in comparison. I would like to hear the opinion of the neighbors of those who have written me they are perfect. It is easy to measure yourself up in your own bushel and call yourself perfect, but if you put yourself in God's bushel you would not fill one small corner of it and by the way didn't somebody in the Bible say: "There is none good, no not one." I suppose the perfect bunch knew better than the man who wrote that. Perfect people are the most imperfect people you'll ever meet anywhere. A person who considers himself perfect must live on a diet of insufferable conceit and adamant nerve, and must be lopsided mentally.

COLUSA, CAL.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

From time to time I have noticed that members of the League sent in with their letters to you, some of their original productions in verse. And your remarks on their poetry were most certainly calculated to dash their hopes that they were inspired sons of Olympus or future men of genius.

With what joy have I merrily laughed at the way you disposed of the outbursts describing the "green trees," and beautiful blue sky," interspersed with "running brooks,"—(poetry interspersed, not the sky and trees.)

And why have I so enjoyed the tearing to pieces of those beautifully worded poems? Because I am a poet (?) too, and I was afflicted with professional jealousy!

But I am generous and desire others to enjoy your criticisms as I have done, so I am sending you some of my poems (?) Just give it to them, Uncle Charlie! If you succeed in saving any of these "gems"—which I hope you will rescue from their state of "wasting their sweetness on the Colusa air,"—why, Uncle Charlie, I'll divide with you!

A Lapse

I am sitting by my window, idly dreaming:
To and fro with the breeze, the trees are leaning;
This summer noon finds everyone lazily sleeping;
So all alone my silent watch I'm keeping.
The breeze faintly carries the blacksmith's pounding;
A solitary carriage the corner is rounding;
Near by comes the sound of stifled hammering;
And in a tree some vagrant crows are clamoring;
And while I'm sitting here, these things recounting;
But never for an instant Pegasus mounting;
There comes to drive away my lazy dreaming;
The knowledge that I ought to be—house-cleaning!

Hoping that you will be benefited by this most liberal (?) offer, I am, with much love,
Your affectionate niece,
MABEL L. KERTZ.

Mabel, there is very little in your bright lines for me to criticize. I do, however, congratulate you that after writing your "pome" you realized that you ought to have been house-cleaning instead of putting your vagrant thoughts on paper. That shows that you combine genius with good sense, something the illiterate "pottery" producer never does. Most people want to moon and dream in a corner, and let the house-cleaning take care of itself. House-cleaning however, is an infinitely more important thing from every possible point of view than poetry. Cleanly, well-ordered homes are the best poems that human hands and brains ever composed. Now dearie for your "pome." In your first two lines you say: "I am sitting by my window idly dreaming." You are wise my dear. If you ever do any dreaming by a window, do it sitting down. I knew a young lady who stood by her window dreaming one night, and she pitched out of the window and fell on her cocoon, and did the rest of her idle dreaming on a slab in the morgue. So you see it is always wiser to dream sitting down or lying down, especially if you are near a window. You say: "To and fro with the breeze the trees are

leaning." I know a man who used to weigh three hundred pounds. He took flesh reducer and now only weighs a hundred. He's been leaning a lot lately, with the accen. on the an. What excites me most in your poem however, is the conclusion of your first verse where you remark: "So all alone my silent watch I'm keeping." Dearie, I congratulate you having a Jingersoll watch. My watch is a sixty-nine cent Jingersoll, and it's anything but silent. Whenever I take that watch out, people think I am carrying around an old rat machine that it is going to explode by clock work. I was calling on my best girl some years ago and I had my sixty-nine cent Jingersoll along. The father of my best girl had warned me if I ever entered the house he'd shoot me black off. While my best girl and I were blissfully swooning Pop suddenly returned. I had just time to dive and r the lounge as the old man blew into the room, and my fiancée spread her skirts out as much as possible, so as to hide me from the fiery optics of Pop. "Anybody been here?" inquired Pop suspiciously. "Nobody," said his daughter. Suddenly Pop pricked up his ears and said: "What's that ticking I hear?" "The clock of course," said my heart's adored in an emphatic way, which should have made all further questioning unnecessary. "Clock be damned," said the suspicious parent. "Our clock never ticked like that, that sounds like somebody pounding a boiler with a sledge hammer." "I am positive it's the clock," said my fair fiancée once more. "Well, we'll soon see if it's the clock," said Pop, and striding to a stately grandfather's timepiece which stood in the corner, he stopped the pendulum. The perspiration was rolling off me in buckets. I was cussing that sixty-nine cent Jingersoll, and trying vainly to smother its frantic ticking which you could hear for ten blocks. "Tell me, daughter," said Pop, "what member of the Black Hand Society has sabotaged an internal machine in my parlor?" I was tugging at her skirt signaling her to hold the feet and not give me away. Unfortunately I tugged at her skirt too hard, and she gave a back kick with the right foot, and the back of her shoe bit me fair on the nose, and knocked out two of my front teeth. I let out a yap you could have heard for a mile, and made a flying leap from under the lounge (which toppled over, throwing Maudie flat on the floor) clean through the window, and ran down the street at three hundred miles a minute while Pop was snapping his head at me through a forty-two Colt revolver. Mabel, that little incident, painful and almost tragic, explains why you are to be congratulated on keeping a silent watch, and not one that ticks and makes a row like a mule kicking the lid off a gas tank. Vagrant crows always will start clamoring when anyone begins to write poetry. The reason for this is easily explained. Nearly all poets have to eat crow, and when a crow gets a line on a gazook, afflicted with the poetic bug he gets nervous and begins to clamor. If I were a crow I'd clamor, too. Now Mabel, dear I'll divide the proceeds of your pome with you. Those proceeds are enjoyment, pleasure and appreciation, delightful things which eventually with study and persistence lead to green backs and gold pieces. Keep on, Mabel with your bright verse. Some day it will bring you some real money.

BURWELL, NEBR.

DEAR UNCLE AND COUSIN:

I am nearly eleven years of age. I have light hair, and blue eyes. I am four feet eight inches tall. I like to go to school and learn to read and write. Papa is a well maker. I have five brothers and one sister. Mama has taken Comfort for a long time, and I like the cousins' letters and Uncle Charlie's answers better than all the rest. I have never seen any letter from Burwell, Nebr., and I would like to see this printed. I hope that Billy the goat don't eat this letter up. We have to keep our Billy goat tied up to keep him from eating up everything. Your loving niece,
MAISIE VERLEY.

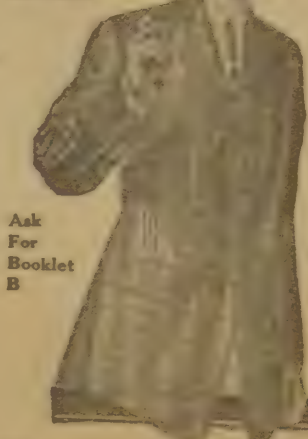
Maisie, your letter is capitally written for a little girl of your tender years. I am glad you like to go to school and hope you are acquiring a good stock of knowledge, knowledge that will help you to vote right later on, when you get to be of voting age. What interests me most in your letter is the statement about your father's occupation. You say he is a "well maker." Good for him. There is nothing we need so much in the world as well makers. There are millions of people all over the world longing to be well, and I am delighted to find that your father is engaged in the business of making them well. Tell your father he can do a first-class job on me any time he gets ready. Tell him he can build me all over again. The only things I don't want reconstructed are my think

box and my nerve. I want these left strictly as they are, as a new body would not be much use to me without these two extraordinarily useful articles. Toby informs me that I have misread your letter. He says your papa does not make people well, and that he merely makes wells from which people haul water. I am exceedingly sorry to hear this, Maisie, as it dooms me to more years of physical inactivity. Anyway I am still interested in your father's profession of making wells. I presume your father has a well store and that you clerk in his store—how's that Maisie? I am also told that when a man wants a well you take his measure and find out how big a well he wants, then you take a sixty-foot well down off the shelves, wrap it up in brown paper, hand it to the man over the counter, and drop the money in the cash register. Oh, I think I'd just love to have a well store, and go all over the country with a buggy peddling wells. I should think, Maisie, your papa could do a roaring business down in Arizona where wells and water are scarce. We used to have a well in our back yard. We didn't buy it from a well store, we just dug it. One day our doctor fell down the well, and I believe he is down there yet. Since he fell down the well, he is always by the well, and never by the sick. Foolish man.

DOUGLASSVILLE, B. D. S. GA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE AND COUSINS:
I have been a reader of COMFORT for several years, and have noticed that the cousins often help those who are weighed down by disease and adversity, hence I come to you, in the hope that you can put the power in my hands, with which to fight life's uneven battles. I am twenty-six years old, and have been crippled twenty years by inflammatory rheumatism. Have never been able to do a day's work, and haven't walked a step for fourteen years. Aside from being hopelessly crippled for life, my health is usually good,

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We sell goods on credit at lower prices than ever were quoted for cash. You can have these home comforts now, and begin at once to enjoy them. No need to wait for the money. Simply pay as you can. We charge no interest and ask no security. Our dealings are all confidential. Any person who wants to make home more attractive is the right sort of person, and his credit is good with us.

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Pay a few cents down on each dollar. Then take the goods, use and enjoy them, and pay us a little each month. On the average, we allow a year to pay. On plan or two years. If misfortune comes, or loss of work, we do what we can to help out. Our whole effort, from the time you first deal with us, is to make you a permanent customer. And you will be. You will never buy housefurnishings elsewhere, and pay others' prices, after you once deal with us.

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Our Piano Catalog shows the very finest grades of pianos, as low as \$175.00. We accept no money down, but simply send the piano and let it sell itself. This book will save you at least \$100 on any piano you want.

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In One Hour

A musical genius from Chicago has just invented a wonderful system whereby anyone can learn to play the Piano or Organ in one hour. With this new method you don't have to know one note from another, yet in an hour of practice you can be playing the popular music with all the fingers of both hands—and playing it well. The invention is so simple that even a child can now master music without costly instruction. Anyone can have this new method to examine merely by asking. You can keep it seven days, then if it is all that is claimed for it you pay \$1.50, and \$1.00 a month till \$6.50 in all is paid. Simply write and say, "Please send me Easy Form Music method," as announced in Comfort.

The method and 100 pieces of music will be immediately shipped, all charges prepaid. Be sure to state how many white keys on your piano or organ. Address: Easy Method Music Company, 383 Clarkson Building, Chicago, Ill.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16.)

who cared to write me how to make a horse-hair watch-chain. I received about thirty letters in all. How this corner grows; every month we welcome newcomers, but where are the old stand-bys who used to write so often?

Lillian Moore. It was good to hear from you again. We who have had COMFORT so long should not forget to write once in a while. I think the sisters ought to give their religious and other views. It increases the interest. I am a Methodist, and a temperance worker. What a beautiful land this would be if all saloons were abolished!

Mrs. Birdie Millon. I am wondering if your mother is right in feeling so badly about that marriage. I agree in general with you, young folks of that age, are not old enough to know their own minds.

I am thirty-two, have been married nine years and have three little girls. My oldest girl of seven years has been sick for about two months. She would like pretty cards, and will return favors.

I remember you, Mrs. Seitz. How brave you must be. The twenty years have taught you the lesson of patience. Your letter must have been a rebuke to many, who are well and strong, but discontented.

Hoping some of you will give me a call by mail, I am, a COMFORT sister.

Mrs. JOHN MYER, McHenry, E. D. 2, Ill.

Tested Recipes from Comfort Sisters

The writer's name or initials will appear at the end of one or more of the recipes.—Editor.

Norwegian Bakkelise

Yolks of five eggs, whites of two eggs, five table-spoonfuls sugar, five table-spoonfuls sweet cream. Beat egg yolks and sugar very stiff, add whipped whites and whipped cream and enough flour to make a stiff dough. Take small pieces and roll out thin as cardboard, cut in small squares or any form. Make slit in center of each, catch up on fork and toss into boiling hot lard, fry till golden brown on both sides. Take out with fork, blow off hot lard, and place on white paper. Delicious with tea or coffee.

Mrs. HERMINE HANSEN.

To Cure Meat

For each one hundred pounds allow two quarts of salt, one half pound brown sugar, three ounces black pepper, one and one half ounces saltpeter. Mix all well together. I weigh my hogs before cutting up, then use this mixture on hams, shoulders and sides. Lay the meat out on a board, rub mixture thoroughly into the rind, end of joints, etc., and then turn over and sprinkle on every part. Do not pile one piece on top of another but give each separate attention. The sides will be ready to smoke in seven or eight days, the hams and shoulders take longer. I usually try a joint, and if just right to eat, hang up and smoke until the meat is cured. Before smoking wash piece in clear, cold water. If directions are properly followed the result will be fine meat.

To Pickle Beef

To ten gallons of water add fifteen pounds salt, five pounds brown sugar, five ounces saltpeter, two and one half ounces soda. Use just enough brine to cover your meat. Boil and skim, when cold pour over the meat and let stand for six or seven days. Then pour off brine, bring to a boil, skim and when cold cover the meat again.

To Put Down Eggs for Winter Use

One pint air-slaked lime, one quart of salt, three gallons of water. Let this brine stand two days, then as you gather fresh eggs put them in, do not try to put in too many as to preserve them the brine must thoroughly cover the eggs.

Easy Way to Make Soap

Try out every bit of fat you have saved all winter. In the spring dissolve one can of lye in four gallons of water, use wooden keg or tub if possible. When thoroughly dissolved stir in as much fat as it will take, leaving just a little water over the top. Let this set out in the sun for about three weeks, stirring occasionally. Then use an old iron kettle to boil it in. If the weather has been warm it will not need much more than an hour's cooking, turn off, when done, into a wooden tub, or paper lined tub can be used. The soft soap left in the keg is fine for scrubbing.

Good Home-made Vinegar

One gallon of syrup or molasses, four gallons of soft (rain) water. Keep in a warm place, in the summer, this will come and be ready for use in about three weeks, but in cooler season will take longer unless kept warm and free from chilling.

Cucumbers for Winter Use

To five gallons of water add enough barrel salt so that an egg will float. Let this stand for an hour and three days, then pick fresh cucumbers, wash dry and leave on the stems, pack into the brine. When full put on cover with a weight to keep pickles under the brine. In the winter take out as many as are needed, soak out in water to which a pinch of alum has been added, lump size of a walnut to a gallon of water is right proportion. Then fill up your empty fruit jars, making either sweet or sour pickles as you choose.

Rice Bread

One cup cold boiled rice, one cup Indian corn meal, one cup white flour, one teaspoonful baking powder, two eggs, one half teaspoonful salt, one table-spoonful melted butter, one cup milk. Mix the dry ingredients together, add beaten eggs mixed with milk and melted butter. Pour into shallow greased pans. Bake half hour in moderate oven.

W. E. Z.

Spiced Cranberries

For one quart of cranberries take one half cup of vinegar, one pound of brown sugar, one half table-spoonful of ground cinnamon, and the same of allspice, one half teaspoonful whole cloves.

Put these into a granite kettle and when dissolved let it boil up once, then put in the cranberries and let them simmer slowly till done. A relish for cold meats.

ADDIE FARR.

Young Housekeepers Try This

If you would have everything you undertake turn out successfully, prepare your flour instead of doing the usual way, then your proportion of raising will always be right.

To one heaping quart of pastry or all round flour add four even teaspoonfuls of cream tartar, two even teaspoonfuls of soda, two heaping teaspoonfuls of salt. Sift this a half dozen times, raising well also and it will be ready for use. In following any cake or other recipe when using this prepared flour, omit of course, salt, cream tartar, soda, or baking powder.

MISS EXPERIENCE.

Rabbit Mincemeat

For one and one half gallons of mince meat take four rabbits, cook until meat drops off of bone then add one pound of suet and grind in meat chopper, add a little salt, one peck of apples chopped fine, one pint of wine, one half pint of vinegar, three pounds of raisins, one table-spoonful of cloves, one table-spoonful of allspice, two table-spoonfuls of cinnamon, then add four cupfuls of sugar and cook until it comes to a boil and it is ready for use.

U. S.

No-Egg Cake

Cream one half cup of butter, add gradually one cup of sugar, then one cup of coffee (let stand until cold) alternately with two rounded cups of flour, previously sifted four times, with three teaspoonfuls of baking powder, next stir in one cup of raisins chopped, floured and seeded, one half cup or more of ground chocolate and one teaspoonful each of cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, allspice and one teaspoonful each of lemon and vanilla extract. Bake in a loaf.

Mrs. GEO. T. CULLEN.

Pepper Nuts

One pound flour, one pound sugar, four eggs, two ounces candied lemon peel, one nutmeg, one table-spoonful of ground cinnamon, one table-spoonful of ground cloves, one table-spoonful of baking powder. Beat eggs and sugar together. Add baking powder and spices and whip thoroughly. Add flour and knead together on board, shape into small balls and bake in slow oven on buttered tin.

Little Sugar Cakes

Three whole eggs, one and one half cupfuls sugar, one and one half cupfuls flour. Beat eggs and sugar together until light. Sift flour slowly, stirring all the time. Beat large pan and drop in it with liberal spaces between, heaping teaspoonful of mixture. Bake in a moderate oven.

LOUISE MURPHY.

Eggless Teacakes

One and one half cups sugar, one cup lard, one teaspoonful of soda dissolved in one cup of sour milk,

any flavor desired, flour to make a soft dough, roll, sprinkle with sugar, and bake in a quick oven.

Grandmother's Molasses Cake

One cup molasses, one cup sugar, one cup lard, two eggs, one small table-spoonful soda dissolved in one cup of sour milk, one table-spoonful of ginger, flour to make a stiff batter, bake in a quick oven.

Mrs. NELLIE McMACKIN.

Good Old Songs We All Love

By special request from many of our readers we print the words of a few songs and will continue to do so each month as space allows. We invite our readers to send in the words of popular old songs which they think would please our six millions of readers. In copying, give each line of poetry a line by itself, do not run it in, as though solid. Please write on one side of paper only.

Songs Requested

"The Old Veteran Explains," wanted by Mrs. H. J. Call, 203 North St., Arkansas City, Kan., please send to given address. "Little Mohea," "The Drinking House," "Over the Way," "Annie Lyle," "How Can I Leave Thee?"

We wish to acknowledge and thank all who responded to Mrs. Eliza Britton's request for the words to poem "James Bird." From the hundreds received we are printing copy sent by Mrs. Mary Dale Culver Evans, as accompanying it is a pen sketch of facts leading up to the incidents of his death.

The words were composed by the late Hon. Charles Miner, an editor and member of Congress of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and who wrote the first History of Wyoming.

James Bird was a volunteer, going with the Kingston Volunteers to join Perry at Lake Erie. He was wounded in battle, and ordered by Perry to leave the deck, but he would not go. For his bravery he was honored, and excited the envy of a young lieutenant. Bird was condemned to be shot for desertion. The war was over, Perry was away, and Bird and a young man named Rankin left, it was supposed, to join Jackson at New Orleans. They were brought back, and condemned to be shot. A reprieve was sent, two men riding on horseback were seen in the distance, waving it, but they were too late. That night the Lieutenant ordered a guard put in his tent to keep away Bird's ghost, the second night he committed suicide. I have the story from the late James A. Gordon, who was at Lake Erie at the time and saw the three graves, those of Bird, Rankin and the Lieutenant.

From Mrs. B. E. H. we have the following historical facts which are of great value:

Old Relics

The following verses were reprinted in the seventies at the time of the Old Folks' Reunion held in Jamestown, N. Y., sometime between the years 1870-1876, my memory is at fault about that as I was young and was not present. But I clearly remember hearing my grandparents sing the old song many times, and have preserved the piece in a scrap book for a goodly number of years. It was printed in the Jamestown Journal of that year.

"Judge E. F. Warren of Fredonia, brought as his contribution to the Relic Department the military coat and sword of James Bird, who was shot upon a charge of desertion from The Niagara, at Erie, Pa., in the war of 1812. The Judge also contributed a copy of the old and popular ballad, written up on the subject by Lawyer Price, then of Mayville, N. Y., which has long been out of print.

"The following met with great popular acceptance, and was much sung in this vicinity during and shortly after the war of 1812. We recently encountered it 'all tattered and torn,' among some relics of that time and believe it to be exceedingly rare. We therefore reprint it that it may be preserved."

James Bird

Ye sons of freedom listen to me
And ye daughters, too, give ear;
You a sad and mournful story
As was ever told shall hear.
Hull, you know, his troops surrendered,
And defenceless left the West;
We our forces quick assembled
The invaders to resist.

Among the troops that marched to Erie
Were the Kingston Volunteers;
Captain Thomas there commanded
To protect our West frontiers.
Tender were the scenes of parting,
Mothers wrung their hands and cried;
Maidens wept their swains in secret,
Fathers strove their tears to hide.

There was one among our number
Tall and gallant was his mien;
Firm his step his look undaunted
Saw a nobler youth was seen.
One sweet kiss he snatched from Mary,
Craved his mother's prayers once more;
Pressed his father's hand and left him,
For Lake Erie's distant shore.

Mary tried to say, "Farewell James,"
Waved her hand, but nothing spoke;
"Good by Bird, may Heaven protect you"
From the rest, at parting broke.
Soon they came where noble Perry
Had assembled all his fleet;
There the gallant Bird enlisted,
Hoping soon the foe to meet.

Where is Bird? The battle rages,
Is he in the strife or not?
Now the cannon roars tremendous—
Dare he meet his hostile foe?
See! Behold him there with Perry,
In the selfsame aim the fight;
Though his messmates fall all round him
Nothing can his soul affright.

But, behold, a ball has struck him,
See the crimson current flow;
"Leave the deck!" exclaimed brave Perry,
"No!" cried Bird, "I will not go."
Here on deck I took my station,
Ne'er will Bird his colors fly;
I'll stand by you gallant Captain,
Till we conquer or I die."

Still he fought both faint and bleeding,
Till the Stars and Stripes arose;
Victory having crowned our efforts,
All triumphant o'er our foes.
And did Bird receive a pension?
Was he to his friends restored?
No, nor never to his home
Clasped the maid his heart adored.

But there came most dismal tidings
From Lake Erie's distant shore;
Better far if Bird had perished
Midst the battle's awful roar.
"Dearest parents," said the letter,
"This will bring sad news to you;
Do not mourn your first beloved,
Though this brings his last adieu."

"I must suffer, for deserting
From the Brig Niagara;
Read this letter brothers, sisters
It's the last you'll have from me."
Sad and gloomy was the morning
Bird was ordered out to die,
Where's the breast not dead to pity?
But for him would breathe a sigh.

Lo! he fought so brave at Erie,
Freely bled and nobly dared,
Let his courage plead for mercy,
Let his precious life be spared.
See him march! and hear his fetters
Harsh they clung upon his ear;
But his step is firm and manly,
For his breast ne'er harbored fear.

See! he kneels upon his coffin,
Sure his death can do no good,
Spare him! O God they've shot him!
See his bosom streams with blood.
Farewell Bird! Farewell forever
Home and friends you'll see no more;
For your mangled corpse lies buried,
On Lake Erie's distant shore.

Letters of Thanks

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

May I take this way to thank the COMFORT sisters for the papers, nice letters and postal cards that were sent me. I answered all that sent addresses. I am improving in health, but still confined to my chair. I do not need any more reading, but I love to receive your letters and postal cards. Wishing COMFORT and all its readers health and happiness, I remain your shut-in sister.

Mrs. VINA ALDRICH, Custer, R. D. 1, Mich.

MY DEAR FRIENDS:

Words cannot express my gratefulness to all those,

who wrote letters and so kindly remembered me on Nov. 13th, '09. I have received nearly six hundred letters and postals, besides other nice remembrances, all of which I prize highly. I wouldn't take anything for them. I have tried very hard to answer all and actually sat down and cried when I realized how impossible it was to answer all the dear, good letters and beautiful cards. I shall answer more, from time to time as I can. I am indeed sorry my music and quilt scrap pieces ran out so soon, but I cheerfully and gladly sent them out as long as they lasted. Wishing you health and happiness, lovingly,

ETHEL V. MCKEE, Box 44, Conway Springs, Kans.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 26.)



You, Too, Should Have This Grand Edison Phonograph on a

FREE LOAN

Yes, an absolutely free loan, the world's greatest phonograph, our new No. 10 model, 1910 outfit, now offered on a free loan.

This outfit includes the great Fireside Edison machine, the new machine on which Mr. Edison has been working for several years—the climax of this inventor's skill. It eclipses all former phonographs, it has improvements all its own never before seen in a talking machine. You must get one of these phonographs on a free loan to learn what Mr. Edison has accomplished in perfecting the greatest, the most wonderful talking machine ever made.

When we say free loan, we mean free loan. We will ship you a machine without a cent down, and without any C.O.D. payment to us, so you can take it right to your home and play the music there. You can hear vaudeville sketches, minstrel shows, comic operas, grand operas, waltzes, the old-fashioned hymns, all kinds of comic and serious music and songs right in your own home. All this on a free loan. Then when you are through with the free loan, simply return the phonograph outfit to us at our expense.

Is there a catch in this? No, there is no catch; but I will tell you my reason for this extra liberal offer. For I have a business reason, aside from my desire to see the great, new invention known among the public. I feel that when I ship you a phonograph on a free loan, you will help me advertise it, by letting your friends and neighbors hear the great concert. I do not ask you to sell any machines for me, in fact, we do not have any agents. But I know that when your friends and neighbors hear the machine, someone somewhere will want to buy one of these phonographs; perhaps several people will want to buy. You, yourself, can keep it if you want to on terms of \$2.00 a month, and absolutely at the rock-bottom price, the lowest possible price at which this outfit can be sold anywhere. But I do not ask you to buy it, I simply want you to get it on a free loan, and help me advertise in that way. It is the quickest and easiest method of introduction that I can find for this great, new phonograph.

Don't you want your wife, and your children, and all the family to have the benefit of these grand concerts? Remember, we charge you nothing. We put you under no obligations at all to help us in any sales. We just want you to hear the phonograph right in your own home and have a few of your neighbors and friends hear it, too. Your children will appreciate the trouble you take in ordering the phonograph on a free loan, and we will ask nothing of you.

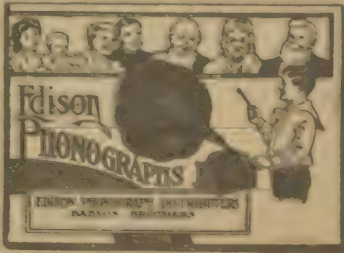


Mr. Edison Says:
"I want to see a Phonograph in every American Home"

The phonograph is his pet and hobby, and it is true that there should be no home in the country without this grand and magnificent entertainer. At any rate, you ought to seize this opportunity to have a phonograph free for awhile and hear all the music at least a few times before shipping back the phonograph.

And remember, please, you can't imagine what a talking machine is like, what the latest improvements mean, until you have heard our outfit No. 10. It is so far superior to the ordinary talking machine you may have heard in your town that there is absolutely no comparison. Convince yourself on this free loan offer.

NOW Write For the Free Catalog!



I want to send you absolutely free our great new Edison catalog, containing the list of records and a full description of the new Fireside Machine. I ask you as a favor to me to read this catalog anyway, even if you should decide that you would not want a free loan. After seeing the catalog, you will perhaps select a list of records you want on the free loan, then you will want a free loan. But anyway let me send you this catalog today, absolutely free, prepaid, without any charge. I want you to see what Mr. Edison has accomplished in talking machines. I want you to appreciate what the talking machine means to the farm home and the village home.

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with your name and address—no letter necessary; or, if you want, you may send a postal card or letter instead of the coupon—either way. But let me have your name and address today. Will you write at once?

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Send Me No Money

I don't want one cent until you have used one of my organs for a full month and are fully convinced that it is better than any you have seen selling with-in \$25 to \$50 of what I ask. Then if you don't want to keep it, send it back at my expense and I will return all you paid in freight. I would pay the freight when I send the organ, but if I did I would have so much money tied up with the railroad companies that I would have to charge more for the organ. The freight charges on an organ from Louisville are about as low for most points as anywhere in this country. That's why I started my factory here. I can ship your organ promptly and it will be delivered quickly. The freight charges to most places from Louisville are less than from Chicago or any point farther north. Louisville is just 40 miles south of the center of population of the U. S.

But if you don't keep the organ you won't be out one penny, although you will have had the organ in your parlor a whole month. I pay everything—every cent.

"It would seem that everyone would have one of Mr. Adler's Famous Prize Winning Organs, now that they can get one upon such easy terms, and at such a low price as he sells them for."

Long Time To Pay

I will not hurry you to pay for the organ. Any honest reader of this paper can get credit of me. I won't push you for your payments. You can have lots of time to pay and full use of the organ. You won't miss the money, and just think how much enjoyment you will have in playing and hearing its beautiful music.

Guaranteed for 50 Years

I give the broadest and longest guarantee of anyone. It's easy for me because I know how my organ is made. That's why I got the highest prize at the World's Fair. No manufacturer can do more—a dealer would not dare to do this. This Adler Organ is my best. I wouldn't put my name on it if it were not a

top notcher. I will replace any part that is not just right, or wears out, or give you a new organ any time within 50 years if the organ isn't all I claim it to be.

CYRUS L. ADLER
Organ Manufacturer

Money Back with 6 Per Cent. Interest

I don't ask any interest on payments. When I make a deal the price and payments are shown in plain figures with no extras. I will however, return your money and 6 per cent. interest on all you have paid if at the end of one year you think the organ has not held up just as I represented and it has not satisfied in every way.

My Whole Proposition Is Told Here

I haven't any scheme or different proposition to make than I give here. My whole proposition is told here. If you want the finest organ that can be had anywhere at any price near it, send me your name and address on a postal card, stating the organ you want and I will ship it to you just as I have promised. Keep it 30 days and either send it back to me at my expense, or keep it and pay for it as you can upon the plan explained in the book.

My catalog isn't very fine. It's just a plain book with pictures of the organs and a simple description of them, showing how they are made and giving prices. I want the organ to speak for itself, and I don't believe in putting a lot of flub dubs in a book that might deceive you. But this book will tell you how I make my organs. The kind of materials I use, and give a good idea of their beauty.

Parlor and Church Organs

I make both Parlor and Church organs. My book shows them all. You should have it now and select the organ you want. Just send me your name. There is no trick about the terms. It's all explained right here, so you may know just what kind of terms you can make. All you need to do now is to get the book and select the organ you want.

CYRUS L. ADLER, President,

Adler Organ Company

Send For the Book

Send this slip or write your name and address on a postal card or in a letter, so I will know who to send the book to. Don't enclose any stamp; I pay all charges. Write plainly.

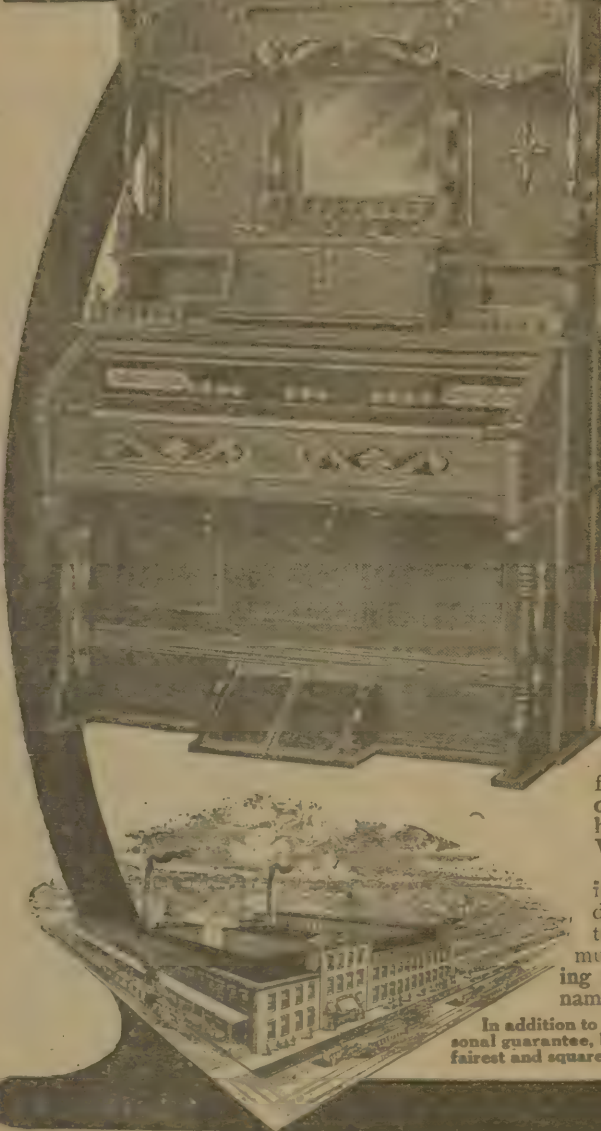
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State



In addition to the low prices, I give you my personal guarantee, backed by my big factory, with the fairest and squarest deal ever offered.



Talks with Girls

Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one month.

A SPRING greeting to all of you, my dears, and yet though it is March, the first spring month, I'm sure none of you have had much spring fever yet. Still the winter is behind us and we stand on the edge of the sunshine and look over into June with a new life as we feel the power of all living things at work. I think you should break your engagement with the sailor because you love the landsman, and then lose the landsman. It would do you good by teaching you that love is one thing and what you think it is is another.

Longing Heart, Point Pleasant, W. Va.—Unless there is a good reason for asking him why he quit writing, the better way is to pay no attention to it. He'd write if he wanted to. (2) The best way to "get a beau" or "attract the attention of boys," is to be womanly and sweet and think about something else than trying to attract such attention. (3) Why sit on his lap if there are chairs plenty in the room? If it is proper, why would you be so ashamed if someone came in and found you there?

Red Rose, Seaford, Ala.—A gentleman will not wink at a lady as he passes her. A lady will not have anything to do with the man who winks at her. (2) If he doesn't call as often as you want him to, have some other young men to call on the nights he isn't there. That will wake him up. (3) On a cold night, if you have no muffler of your own, you might tie the young man's around your head.

The first letter in the file on my desk is from Cousin Emma of Chicago who thinks she is wasting time going with a nice young man because he doesn't declare himself and she thinks maybe he is only doing it for practice. Now did any of you ever? Wasting time, indeed? Here she is at twenty having two calls a week, going to all the shows and having the best days of her life, yet she calls it wasting time. What does she want anyhow! Isn't there plenty of time after she is three or four or five years older to look for trouble? Evidently she is making her own living now, and a good one, yet she wants to work ten times as hard without pay and stay at home taking care of the house and the children instead of receiving calls and going to shows. My, my, it is right to kind of a man, but why be in such a hurry about it?

M. H. Shirley, W. Va.—I have no opinion, my dear, as to which finger the engagement ring goes on. Usage puts it on the third finger of the left hand. You may wear it on your thumb if you want to.

Troubled, Vailant, Okla.—I think you have a right to break the engagement when he does not write, or at least once a week. My dear, when a young man gets drunk and breaks a date because of it, doesn't his conduct show that he doesn't care for you? He may make all sorts of promises, but he will forget them when the desire to drink comes. Don't you think you should be careful of what you may break it some day. A drunken husband is a fearful name on any woman's record. I don't want to scold, but if you are in the "beigh" seventh grade at school, why do you spell it that way? And if you are going to "Business College" in 1911 why not learn how to spell it? My, my.

Blue Bell, Franklin, Tenn.—Mind your mother until you are old enough to decide for yourself. If he is as good as you say he is he will keep that long I am sure.

Blue Eyes, Return, Va.—We don't think the spots on your tonsils mean anything serious. If they give you trouble let a physician look at them. When the tonsils become too troublesome they should be removed.

Blue and Brown Eyes, Port Huron, Mich.—The young man who is nice to a girl when he is with her and who is not so nice when he is away from her is not a good man. He will take the hint unless he is

too stupid for anything. If he is that stupid, you don't care whether you hurt his feelings or not. Indeed, his feelings are not the kind you can hurt very much, anyway.

Down-eyed Reader, Harrisburg, Ill.—My dear, I think you should break your engagement with the sailor because you love the landsman, and then lose the landsman. It would do you good by teaching you that love is one thing and what you think it is is another.

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Little Genevieve, Creighton, Neb.—My dear, go to your mother with the questions you ask me. She will tell you more than I can. If you have no mother, talk to any good woman you know. An answer such as I could give doesn't tell you enough.

Brown Eyes, Bartow, Fla.—Whenever a young man tells you you must let him kiss you to prove that you care for him, show him at once that you do not care for him, and you will not regret it. (2) I think you ought to be a very good-looking girl, but don't think about that until you have made yourself so attractive in other ways, that mere physical beauty will be secondary.

Brown Eyes, Brownell, Tex.—It is not only harmful, but dishonorable for a girl to flirt with one while accepting the serious attentions of another. As for being in love with another and flirting at the same time, she cannot. The girl really in love does not flirt.

Estella, Dallas, Ga.—You must bide your time, dear, until you are able to work for yourself. You cannot bring him to you unless he wants to come, and he has no more control over his heart than you have. I think, as your mother does, that at eighteen you should not take the matter too seriously. You can only make yourself unhappy, and not do a particle of good.

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D. T. Tripoli, In.—Don't marry a man with consumption. It is not fair to the children you may bring into the world, nor is it fair to yourself. Devote your life to him if you wish, but don't marry him.

Sugar Pie, Rockingham, N. C.—You would much better wait until you are twenty-one. By that time, perhaps, your parents, will give their consent, and in any event you will have had more world experience, and will know your own heart better. Wait by all means.

Discouraged Cousin, Ellensburg Depot, N. Y.—A girl of seventeen who lives in a state which has as good schools as are in New York, and who writes as poor a letter as you do, should stop thinking about beaus and apply herself to her spelling book and grammar for the next four years. When you are twenty-one, the objections of your father and grandmother may be overcome.

Spitfire, Elsie, Mich.—Let him keep on watching you until you finish your remaining year in high school, then you can find a way to make up and be friends again.

Brownie, West Galway, N. Y.—I think you and your mother can overcome your father's objections to the young fellow if you can prove his character. In the mean time don't encourage the other one.

Soft Heart, Puyallup, Wash.—Don't bother about the one you didn't like. He will get over it by and by. (2) It is all right to exchange post cards with nearly any one who sends them. Still, don't be too free with them. You must send one to the young man you told you didn't think it proper to exchange cards, and explain afterwards.

B. A. G., Yakima, Wash.—Continue writing to the other one, if you are afraid he will wreak vengeance on your "gentleman friend," if you do not, but make your letters quite formal.

Cherry Blossom, Hammond, W. Va.—As he falls to reply and doesn't know that he is still where you have been waiting for him, write again, putting your address in one corner of the envelope, and if he does not receive it it will be returned to you. If he receives it and does not answer, let him go.

K. N., Roby, Wash.—You will have to ask him why he acts so indifferently at different times. Maybe he is a moody person. If he is, don't have any more to do with him. (2) Don't exchange post cards with young men you have never seen.

J. E. A., Warren, Pa.—If he hasn't said anything to you about love in the four years he has been going with you, I don't believe he loves you very much. Try someone who is more expressive.

Forsaken, Ambia, Ind.—"Come out of your shell and be sociable." That's the way to show him that you have no ill will and that you don't care a great deal whether he comes to see you or goes to see other girls. Give him his head and most of the chances are that he will come your way, whether you want him to or not. That's the way most men have. They are queer creatures, as you may have noticed.

Daisybelle, Stickney, Pa.—Of course he doesn't care for you any more than for other girls, and you are silly to think he does. The others will be laughing at you presently.

S. J. Tripoli, In.—Don't marry any man just because you like him. It takes love, real love, to make marriage successful.

Unhappy Girl, Bradford, O.—Engaged to one man and in love with another? Do you think that speaks well for your stability of heart? It does not. I do not advise you to marry the man to whom you are engaged, and you should not marry the man you think you love. Your safest way out of it is to wait a year or two, or even three. But I don't think you have strength of character sufficient for that.

Despondent, Baltimore, Md.—You did not know that he cared for you, and now that he has proved he did not by leaving you for another girl, you want him back. My dear, why do you want a man who does not want you? Do you think there is happiness in possession of that sort? Let me tell you there is not.

Blue Eyes, Preston, Wash.—If your parents do not object to your accepting the attention of a man of twenty-seven and you but fifteen, I am sure I have nothing to say.

Nell, Kansas City, Mo.—My, my, if everybody in the world had as little real trouble as you have, life would be quite worth living. Worry along as you are now doing, and by and by when the real trouble comes you will wonder why you made a mountain out of a molehill.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 33A)

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"MY LADY BETH"

By Mrs. Georgie Sheldon

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CHAPTER X.

W E left Nathan seated on the great rock by the wayside trying to solve the perplexing riddle regarding the picture for which he had been so diligently looking ever since Philip's last visit to the farm and to the final results.

Where could Lady Beth have found it? Why was she so unhappy when she looked at it, and how was he ever going to restore it to Mr. Walton? He couldn't ask her for it, because Philip had told him not to speak of his loss to anyone, and his old trick of stealing was not to be thought of. He sat revolving these pros and cons for some time when, all at once, the sound of wheels aroused him from his reverie. The next moment a carriage stopped beside him, and Philip himself sprang to the ground, paid the coachman, and dismissed him.

"Well, Nathan, you did not expect me today, did you?" Philip smilingly observed as he met the boy's astonished gaze.

Nathan shook his head, but his beaming face bespoke a gratifying welcome and unqualified delight in his presence.

"I didn't think I could come until just at the last minute when I found I could get away. How is Zieba?"

"Zieba—she's fine; and—" in an eager tone—"I find—and"

"You have found what?" asked Philip looking perplexed.

"Der picture."

"Oh, the photograph of the little girl! I'm very glad. Give it to me, please," the gentleman returned, looking both gratified and relieved.

Nathan, with a depressed air, shook his head. "I no got 'im," he said.

"You have found the picture yet you haven't got it! What do you mean?" Philip inquired.

"My Lady—she got 'im."

"Miss Russell?" Philip seemed incredulous. Nathan nodded affirmation.

"How do you know she has it?" the gentleman demanded somewhat impatiently.

The boy hung his head, intuitively conscious that he had played the part of a spy where he had no business to do so.

"My Lady—she in der summer-house mit herself, she look at picture and cry on it—look at it again and cry more," he explained.

"When was this?" Philip asked with quickening pulses.

"Just now—little while—"

"All right. Good boy! Here! Here!" Philip plunged into a pocket, drew forth a silver dollar which he tossed to Nathan, and was gone, his swift steps winged by a new, sweet hope.

He reached the summer-house just in time to hear Miss Prue's declaration regarding the state of Beth's heart, and the girl's desperate and passionate confession of her love for him. The look of abject dismay on Miss Russell's face as his form darkened the doorway almost caused him to laugh aloud in his elation. He merely nodded a smiling greeting, however, and made a gesture for her to disappear; then, with a clear field before him, he quietly cornered his prey as related.

Beth knew that her days of pretense were over, that she was at his mercy, for she had committed herself beyond recall; but after a moment she made an effort to release herself.

He only drew her closer. "No, my darling, you have rashly given yourself away, and now you must satisfy what I have overheard," he said in a masterful tone, but with a world of tenderness in his eyes as he met her troubled look.

"But—but—" she panted as she tried to hide her blushing face from him.

He voluntarily released her at once. "Surely you are not going to retract—that has made my heart so glad," he said gravely as he stood with folded arms before her. "I know that it was practically forced from you, and I heard it by accident even though it may look as if I had stolen a march on you. Beth, you know I love you with all my heart, so do not allow your pride to spoil our lives, dear. Forgive me for that one offence of the past, inexcusable though it was. Let us settle it now once for all, and make the most of our future. Will you, My Lady Beth?"

Something in his tone as he thus spoke her name swept the last resentful thought from Beth's heart. She lifted a quick, shy look to him, then slipped a confiding hand into one of his.

"Philip, I'm afraid there is a great deal of the old willful Beth still left," she faltered meekly.

He caught her to him again with a glad laugh. She wouldn't be My Lady if there were not," he said. "And now—I've got to have it straight—do you really and truly love me with all your heart, as Aunt Prue said?"

"I always have, every moment of my life," she shyly admitted, adding with a mischievous smile, "at least ever since the day you told me 'my will was law'."

Again his laugh rang out joyously. "Really, the situation is becoming exceedingly interesting," he observed with an appreciative sigh, "and I am beginning to find some compensation for the protracted child I've had ever since my return to

my native land. Now, dear, let us sit down and continue this thawing-out process, and then you'll have to defend yourself on another charge." With his strong right arm around her he led her to a seat, and sat down beside her. Both faces were radiant now, and they gave themselves up to the happiness of the hour.

Later during a pause, Philip remarked, "By the way, Miss Sly-boots, I want my picture back."

"What picture?" Beth demurely inquired.

"You need not try to play innocence. I know you have it," he asserted. "This is the other charge you have to defend."

"How do you know? And that reminds me to ask how you happened to appear upon the scene so unexpectedly and just at the right moment to—to dissolve me, heroically into a mere farce?" demanded Beth, assuming a mock air of injury.

"Well, I found it would be possible to leave Boston by straining a point, which I did, and was just in season to catch my train. On my arrival I came upon Nathan seated in troubled meditation on the big rock, and he told me you had my picture—"

"Nathan told you—"

"Yes. I lost it that evening the wind made such a havoc with my papers on the piazza, and failing to find it myself, I promised Nathan a dollar if he would hunt for it on the quiet."

Philip explained. "When I met him just now he told me he had found 'im,' but he hadn't got 'im; the lady had 'im, in the summer-house and was crying on 'im—she look at 'im and cry—den she look at 'im again and cry more."

I began to see daylight in more ways than one, and made a bee-line for this henceforth historic spot. That is how I happened to be here. Now the picture, if you please, My Lady."

Beth laughingly yet reluctantly, drew it from her bag, but still held it away from him, as she pleaded:

"Philip, please let me destroy it."

"Not on your life," he returned, as he promptly captured and put it carefully away. "It is all I have left to remind me of the Beth of old times—except perhaps a flash of temper now and then."

He interposed wickedly, "and I am going to keep it as long as I live," and Beth, secretly pleased in view of his loyalty in spite of her detestation of the photograph, said no more.

"Now, your Ladyship," Philip presently resumed. "When are you going to marry me?"

Beth looked surprised. "Why," she began flushing brightly, "I hadn't thought about that—yet!"

"Well, there is only a month left before the limitation of that will expire."

Beth turned suddenly cold. "So you are thinking about that money, are you?" she said in a constrained tone.

"I don't want it scattered by the four winds of heaven, do you?" he questioned in a practical tone.

"Philip," and Beth faced him with earnest eyes, "do you want or need this money, or any part of it?"

"Not a penny of it," he unhesitatingly affirmed, "but I want it to go where it rightly belongs."

Your Aunt Eliza had no special interest in the heathen—that condition is only a threat. It simply means if you won't do as I want you to, you can't have my money."

Beth sat silent for several moments. At last she said very gravely and deliberately, "Philip, I do not want it either, and—I am not going to marry you to get that money."

Philip experienced an inward shock. Here was another reminder of that old-time Beth, for he realized that she was in dead earnest. "No, dear, not to get the money. I understand that," he quietly replied, "but since we are no longer in doubt regarding our attitude towards each other, we may just as well avail ourselves of the conditions of the will, and—"

the fortune that rightly belongs to you."

Beth shook her pretty head with decision. "No, I should always feel that it had had its influence with one or both of us, and I should hate it every day of my life. Then everybody else would think and say it was a marriage of convenience, so I'd rather have the benighted heathen get every dollar of it, and—I never want to think of that hateful will again."

Philip saw that she had taken her stand, and he was nonplussed for the time being. At length he asked, "But when will you marry me, Beth, if you will not comply with the condition of the will? Now that I have won you I want you, and there is no sense in waiting indefinitely."

"Well," she thoughtfully replied, "if you wish, let it be as soon as you like after the date set by Aunt Eliza. I will even make it the day following my twenty-second birthday, one month from tomorrow, if that will please you, Philip."

Philip's face beamed in view of this concession to an early union; yet he was far from being reconciled to what he regarded as a willful waste of a large amount of money. "Well, if that is your ultimatum, I am only too glad to capture you at the earliest possible date. All the same—"

"Oh, Philip, pray do not argue that point any more. Please, please take me just as I am, without a penny, and so prove to me that you don't want that money," Beth pleaded in a tone the tremulousness of which told how deeply in ear-



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nest she was; and Philip, happy in having won her at any cost, resolved that he would not touch the decision of Aunt Prue.

Not so, however, with Mr. Russell, Teddy, and Ned, and even Aunt Prue, all of whom, through distrust of the prospective marriage, were seized in view of such an unbecoming sacrifice. Each and everyone argued and objected collectively and separately with Beth, but the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 33A)

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Already the shop windows and counters are filled with beautiful fabrics for spring wear. The decided absence of bright colors is very marked the latest and handsomer materials being in soft, subdued tones in varying shades of green, prune, gray, rose, ponce, old blue, navy blue, etc. Black, as well as black and white, will be much worn and there is a revival of the old-time Shepherd checks. Wool, silk, cotton and linen are all shown in coarse weaves and no mistake will be made in selecting them for most any kind of dress, suit or separate coat.

The Latest Coat Models

are inclined to be closer fitting and shorter in the suits, while the long garments come within a few inches of the bottom of the skirt, and often are made fully as long. These coats at this season of the year are most useful. In fair weather they give the added warmth necessary when worn over a thin dress, and on stormy days afford a complete protection. When warm weather comes they are hung away, only to be brought out on special occasions such as driving, traveling, hunting, etc., then again in the fall for cool days and evenings. For those coats remain in style several seasons. More fullness is seen in the coat sleeves, a little dropping away from the extreme pointiness.

The beauty of the suits are in the handsome materials and their graceful lines. All are simple made, showing the only trimmings in most of the smart models, now and then a little braiding being effectively used on the smooth weaves or a few buttons covered in two colors. Collar and cuff facings of moire or satin either in black or to match are extremely fashionable, although some of the most exclusive models have facings of same.

The blouse or Russian suit promises to become very popular as the season advances. They are youthful and becoming and are simple to make. Out in designs for both ladies and misses, they look particularly well made up in rough-surfaced materials, and which will be equally fashionable later in the year made of linen, duck, crash and pongee.

At present many of the tailored skirts have yoke tops and are moderately full, no extreme waists being used. There is a variety of styles ranging from the plain skirt to full length plaits and some are cut with fullness. The most fashionable length is about three inches from the floor both a becoming and sensible style. Herring-bone and basket-weave chevrons, diagonals, broadcloth and all the mannish suitings are used.

Shirt-Waists and Blouses

The shirt-waist seems to gain in favor each season, which is easily understood when one considers their many advantages and the range of materials used in their development from madras, Scotch gingham, French waistings, chambray, plaid cambric or taller percale for the plainer styles to the fine lawn and muslin, dimity, nain-sook, silk and linen for the fancy waists and blouses. Crepe is used for both plain and fancy designs and is trimmed with heavy insertion and lace, tucks and crocheted buttons. A broad band of lace is desirable and often suggested by trimming, yoke or deep plaits being carried over sleeve top. Both the sleeve with cuff and the two-piece fitted sleeve are worn, the latter being the more popular style as it allows of a greater freedom of movement.

Some Attractive Accessories that May be Made at Home

Many and varied are the dainty finishing touches which nowadays form so important a part of women's pretty bows are the loveliest I ever saw.

The display of collars, cuffs, jabots, belts and Colors are used even more than last season, both in materials and embroidery. To wear with plain white waists are collar and cuffs made from blue linen or chambray finished with buttonholes or hemstitch edges. Others have machine stitched hems with three tiny tucks above, which make pretty corners where the tucks cross. Very stylish are the buttoned cuffs of hand-made lace. The neck band is perfectly straight and made of two thicknesses of white cotton. The lace may be the same width, or narrower if worn with a collar or silk which goes around the collar and finishes at the throat with square bows.

The one-sided fringe is a novel idea and when worn with a plait of shirt waist and are taken off and on as desired. There is an endless variety of them. To wear

with silk waists they are made of muslin, lace or net edged with lace, of silk finely plaited or gathered.

The Dutch collar has gained in popularity and is worn with shirt-waists, princess dresses and overcoat collars. One particularly dainty with square corners, was made with rows of Swiss insertion joined together with fine beading. The beading was then sewed around the entire collar, then a band of the insertion which was edged with narrow lace. Another was of two thicknesses of fine pink linen, having three graduated rows of pink dots and buttonholes edge in a large scallop. The same design done in white would be equally smart. These Dutch collars may be put into any desired width of band.

Braided belts add much to the wash dresses, and are effectively made by tracing or transferring a design on a white belt and braiding with colored coronation braid to match dress. Or the colored belt with white braid is equally pretty as well as made in all white. Embroidered belts in both simple and elaborate designs in both white and colors are very beautiful and with the assistance of most any floral or conventional design, some pretty belts may be designed at home.

Small bows made from lawn edged with lace are worn with all styles of collars, also the black or colored satin having two long loops at each end. Something new to wear with self-collars on either separate waists or dresses, is made by taking a four-inch wide, thin satin ribbon twenty inches long and laying in three folds when it should measure about an inch in width. One inch from each end tie once into a soft flat knot, and at the end it may be finished by gathering to a point and sewing on tassels, by using a tiny bow or ribbon or shirring the ends and sewing on a round crocheted button. Pass around neck at bottom of collar and either tie in square tiny bow, or simply tie once and fasten with fancy pin. Or they may be permanently tied in front, opened at back and finished with hook and eye.

A very stylish shirt-waist in tailored effect is the one here presented, No. 3162. It is side closing, and has narrow tucks each side, slanting from the shoulder to the lower edge, and a becoming degree of fullness at the waistline back and front. The long slightly full sleeves are finished with a lapping wristband, and a high collar completely covers the neck edge. This waist No. 3162, would be exceedingly pretty made up in blue cloth with black soutache trimming and buttons. Cut in five sizes, from 34 to 42 inches bust measure. For 36 bust the shirt-waist requires two and five eighths yards of material 36 inches wide and 14 yards of soutache.

Designs for the Young Miss

Nos. 3153, 3163, 3149, 3177

This attractive group of four patterns illustrates four smart, exclusive models.

A newer, more stylish garment for girlish waists could scarcely be devised than the pretty Gibson shirt-waist here shown. The design (3153) may be developed in madras, gingham, wool waists or



percale. The pattern is cut in three sizes, from 13 to 17 years. For 15 years the waist requires two yards of material 36 inches wide.

A very graceful model for a separate skirt for a young girl is the one piece plaited skirt (No. 3163). The skirt will appear to excellent advantage when worn with shirt-waists of tailor design. This pattern is cut in four sizes, from 12 to 18 years. For a miss of 16 years the skirt requires five and three quarters yards of material 36 inches wide.

Very smart for young girls are the new Russian Blouse Suits (No. 3149). For present wear and when the winter coats are laid aside, this suit will prove serviceable. Make of navy-blue and braid with black soutache. With a little perseverance the braided design may be copied. Stitch braid once through center. The costume consists of a blouse gored to the shoulders, and a separate five-gored skirt. Cut in three sizes, 13 to 17 years. For 15-year size the dress requires five and one eighth yards of material 36 inches wide.

No. 3177, Misses' Princess Dress with its square yoke, pretty over-sleeves, its pointed side portions and plaited skirt, is certainly a design which will make a young miss appear at her best. The dress can be made of any soft wool material with yoke and under-sleeves of all-over lace. For later use this design may be developed in summer materials. Close on left side front seam with hooks and eyes. Three sizes, 14 to 18 years. Size 16 years as illustrated requires five and five eighths yards of materials 36 inches wide, one and three quarters yards of all-over lace 18 inches wide.

This dainty attractive model is developed in great quantities. Any soft clinging material is suitable. Ladies' Mophead Dress No. 3161 is designed for figures without excess material or inflated waists, and consists of a waist closing in at the front, with body lining and an all-around gathered skirt, having extra length at the top for adjustment, also darts and plaits at front to be let out for extra width, and an inverted box plait at the back. Cut in eight sizes, 22 to 46 inches bust measure. For 36-inch bust the dress requires six and one half yards 36 inches wide, one and three quarters yards 42 inches wide, with one half yard of all-over lace 18 inches wide, and two and one quarter yards of ribbon.

Ladies'

Princess

Jumper Dress

No. 3008 is a

smart, stylish

design for

spring wear

and later may

be developed in

plique, duck,

poplin or linen.

It has the new

long-waisted

effect which is so

becoming. The skirt

portion has the

necessary fullness

distributed in a wide

inverted plait, either

side of the front; a

similar plait giving

fullness to the center

back. The armholes

form strap effects

over the shoulders,

which are trimmed

with buttons, and

the separate guimpe

may be made of any

desired material.

The pattern is in six

sizes, 32 to 42

inches bust measure.

For 36 bust the

dress requires five

yards 36 inches

wide; the guimpe

one and three

quarters yards 36

inches wide.

New Designs for the Little Folks

Attractiveness and good taste are the advantages of this simple and practical design No. 3188 in a Girl's Sailor Suit. For spring school wear it may be developed in a soft wool material or in the heavier cottons. Three rows of soutache braid may be used on cuffs and collar, or several rows of stitching. Cut in four sizes, six to 12 years. Size eight years requires three and five eighths yards 36 inches wide.

The Dress No. 3171 represents one of the prettiest spring models. As illustrated a fine Shepherd plaid of blue and green was used, with belt, top and armhole facings of plain blue and buttons of smoked pearl. It is made with inverted plait front and back, and close at each side. When made of wash material, the advantage of opening each side and laying dress out flat to be ironed will readily be seen. The belt is made of two ply with two rows of stitching at edges and buttoned onto third button under arms. The guimpe is of pique, but may be of tucking or all-over. Four sizes, three to nine years. Size seven requires one and seven eighths yards 36 inches wide. One half yard for facings on plain color and guimpe requires one and one eighth yards 36 inches wide.

Little boys between the ages of two and five years, wear this Boys' Russian suit (3180) consisting of a blouse having removable shield and sleeves plaited at bottom or finished with wristbands and knickerbockers and is particularly becoming and suitable. Regarding shield, it is well to make several washable ones, as often a fresh shield will give the whole suit a "spick-span" appearance. If plaited sleeve bottom is used, mark, lay and stitch plaits before seaming sleeve together. When made from woolen, often the collar is of wash material and made detachable. Four sizes, two to five years. Size three years requires two and five eighths yards 36 inches wide if made of one material.

There is something particularly attractive in this little Child's Dress No. 3186 with the broad yoke which may be embroidered or worn plain with a narrow standing collar. As shown, edge of yoke, collar, wristbands and belt are trimmed with a narrow plain Hamberg. Just the scallop showing, giving a dainty finish. The sleeves may be elbow or full length. Cut in four sizes, two to eight years. Size four years requires two and one quarter yards 36 inches wide.

Very useful and convenient is No. 3184 in a Girls' and Children's Sack Apron. Five sizes, four to 12 years. Size eight years requires three and one eighth yards 27 inches wide.

Questions and Answers

CHILDREN'S ONE-PIECE APRON.—No. 1789, Mrs. C. R. FLETCHER makes an ideal school apron. It is without opening, slipping on over the head, and takes very little time to make. Cut in five sizes, three to 14 years. For seven years the apron needs one and one quarter yards 27 inches wide.

LENGTH OF PLACKET.—The best guide Mrs. OGDENBORN for length of placket is to make it just to the hip. This allows the skirt to slip down or over the head without straining the seams.

SPRING SUIT.—Nos. 3181-3207 made from your black twilled material Mrs. J. B. T. will make you a stylish suit. Use covered buttons with hard rims and silk facings for collar and cuffs.

PATTERNS FOR SMALL WOMEN.—I notice what you say Mrs. I. T. STRICKNEY about the 32-inch bust size being too large for you in ladies' sizes. I would suggest your trying a 17 years size in the misses' proportions are uniformly smaller.

CORD INSTEAD OF BUTTONHOLES.—What you refer to Mrs. WHEELER must be a cord which is sewed to edge of child's coat the entire length, excepting that spaces sufficiently long to admit the button are left uncut, each end of the space being securely fastened. It is a pretty device, durable and labor saving.

WAIST TO BE WORN OUTSIDE.—Better than the slip pattern S. A. S. N. would be No. 3187 in this number, or 3176 if you desire a plainer style. No. 3187 substitute a plain front for the tucking and use a soft full each side of a plait. For one of your are waist about one inch below the waist line (the complete pattern need to fasten in front about grade of a six-inch wide lace piece of silk with an inch wide hem on each side. Let upper edge of waist a little tight and sew to waist about an inch above waist line. I from your material unless you make it shorter. This you can do when you wish a good fit for spring wear. The skirt requires two and five eighths of material 54 inches wide, and I think the remainder will cut for your coat. I am very pleased to answer your questions.

Little Helps Along the Way

When you have finished embroidering a buttonhole edge, trim away the material closely and make a second row of buttonhole stitches, taking in about better and can never fray.

A half-inch elastic band not quite as long as the boy's waist measure, put into the blouse hem is often more satisfactory than the draw string. Fasten with good-sized knots and bows.

Waist skirts with plain hems around the bottom also dress skirts that are considerably worn and will last a little longer, may be made neat and fresh by cutting down the hem on the broad side, turn in all the worn part and baste two sides together and stitch twice.

Common patterns can be supplied from the back numbers.

Make yourself a good yard stick by laying your tape measure onto a strip of wood, such as is used in the hem of window shades, and marking off the

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3-Piece Novelty Outfit
Plaited Panama Skirt,
black, brown or blue;
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waist, all for
\$6.75
One of our
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On Six Months' Credit!

We have just issued our splendid Spring Style Book, which every woman should have. Ask us to send you copy.

It contains nearly 500 pictures, showing over 400 styles of new things for women's and children's wear.

There is an endless array of the newest creations in man-tailored suits and coats, which we make to individual measure at less than ready-made prices.

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All Garments Shipped on Approval

If they are not satisfactory in every way, you simply return them to us. We guarantee to fit you as perfectly, from the measurements you give us, as though you came to our tailor shop.

Every garment shown in this book is sold on six months' credit, at the same price as for cash. You pay a little each month. No security, no interest. We open a charge account.

We have 300,000 patrons, and some are in every town. Our business is the largest of its kind in the world.

We ask all women—old customers and new—to write for this Spring Style Book. It is an amazing book—a complete education in fashions. And the book is entirely free.

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measuring lines. Another way is to firmly glue tape measure to strip of wood.

Always use a new machine needle when stitching silk as much of the unsightly puckering and drawing so often seen is caused by a blunt needle.

To freshen velvet boxes, heat a curling iron and lay a small damp cloth over it. Insert in each loop and open curler to its fullest extent. The velvet will be steamed and with a good brushing its freshness will be restored.

Use an embroidery needle to darn with. The long eye and smaller needle does easier and better work than the regulation darning needle. They may be bought by the paper in mixed sizes which are very convenient.

It is a saving to all the materials kept in the work basket to have the scissor points inserted into a cork stopper, as well as being a protection to the little ones in case they unintentionally get hold of them.

GRAY HAIR

Dandruff, Itching Scalp, Falling Hair. If gray hairs begin to appear start the use of WELL'S HAIR BALM. It is not a quick dye, which gives an unnatural, weird look, but gradually restores Gray Hair to the original natural color, black or brown, in two to four applications, the hair retaining a natural look that no one would suspect you of using anything. Nothing better for dandruff, itching scalp or falling hair. Contains neither oil nor grease. It is not sticky or messy. It will please you because it does the work and does it right. In use forty years without complaint. 50c and \$1.00 at druggists. Can prepay express only on \$1.00 size. See you get Well's. E. S. WELLS, Chemist, Jersey City, N. J., U. S. A.

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An automatic watch, stem wind watch with prettily designed case, factory tested, guaranteed for 5 years; also exquisite ring set with lovely sparkle, also chain are given boys and girls for selling 20 packets high grade art postcards at 10c a packet. Order 20 packets today. When sold send us \$2.00 and we will positively send you a watch, ring and chain all prepaid. Write for cards today. BYRON FORREST CO., Dept. 27, CHICAGO

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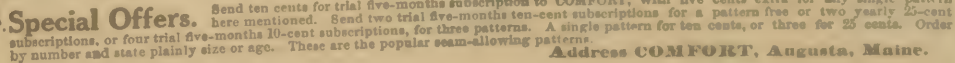
WRITE US WHICH Jewelry or Shampoo-Hair Tonic, to sell at 10c each, when sold return \$1.20 and we will give you three rings FREE. Address: G. T. HANFORD CO., PROVIDENCE, R. I.

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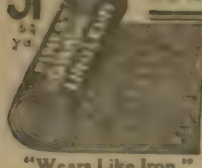
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3,000 9x12 best grade Tapestry Brussels Rugs. All colors and beautiful designs. Retail at \$12.50. Our bargain price, \$7.95.

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Send us your name and address. We will send you postpaid a Vulcan Razor. Shave with it for 30 days. If at the end of that time you're satisfied that it's the best razor you ever put to your face send us \$1.75. If not, just send back the razor and there will be no charge. But you can't help but like this English crucible steel, even tempered and bevel edge razor because it's made right-tempered right-ground right-sold right. State whether you want round or square point; wide, medium or narrow blade; whether your beard is stiff, medium or soft and how often you shave. Isn't it worth writing to find a razor that just suits you?

Complete Cutlery Catalog on request.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

Letters of Thanks
(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21.)

My Dear Friends:

Please accept my sincere thanks for the many nice letters, postals and reading matter you sent me. I appreciated them all.

Mrs. Arthur Swamy. Your remedy has helped Byron so much. Every Christian reading this prayer please for the recovery of my boy.

May God bless COMFORT's readers.
Mrs. ANDREW CHAPMAN, Elmwood Farm, Lockhart, Texas.

Dear COMFORT Sisters:

I do not want to be classed among the ungrateful, so just let me express my thanks to all who so kindly sent me Jan. '09 COMFORTS in answer to my request. I could have started a newspaper. Our dear old COMFORT certainly has a wide circulation. They came to me from all directions. I answered every reader with the exception of those who were new. I could not write her personally as she did not give the name of her town, and the upper part of the postmark was entirely obliterated. I thank her for the favor. I would like to return it in some way and will if she will write me.

Mrs. Geo. N. FURMAN, W. Lafayette, R. D. 11, Ind.

Missing Relatives and Friends

At the request of many readers we restored our popular Missing Relatives department one year ago. Through this department, when previously appearing, we brought together many relatives and dear ones, and shall hope for the same happy result in the future.

If you are anxious to learn the whereabouts of any missing relatives or friends, through COMFORT with its enormous number of readers, there is every reason to believe they can be located.

We should only require you to get a small club of subscribers to COMFORT for each request printed; so in sending your notice for insertion in the Missing Relatives' column, include a club of three yearly 25-cent subscriptions, or if you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber, send only two new yearly 25-cent subscriptions. This amount limits the notice to twenty-two words, making three lines; if longer notice is required, send two additional 25-cent yearly subscriptions for every seven words.

Mrs. Mary V. Burden, Shrewsbury, Ky., desires to know whereabouts of Geo. W. Sader. Has red complexion, blue eyes. Last heard of in Colorado and California.

Whereabouts of Isidore Leroux, left France for America 1883. Information if alive or of his death. Address Mrs. A. Leroux, Mount Hood, Oregon.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Charles S. Ball or family, last heard from at Adrian, Texas, write Mrs. Lillie A. Prindle, Anness, Kansas.

Abner L. Wilson, Hamilton, Wash., wishes to know whereabouts of H. Fretz and his wife Emma, his sons, Harver and Neven or their sister. Last heard from in St. Louis, Mo.

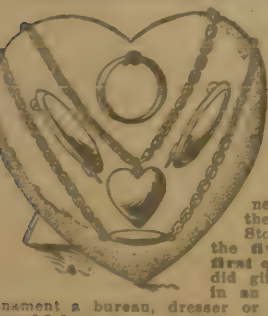
Anyone knowing the whereabouts of John T. Blanton, last heard from in Portland, Ore., July, 1904, please write his brother, H. E. Blanton, Box 45, Nichols, R. D. 2, S. C.

Comfort Postal Requests

How to Get a Lot of Souvenir Postals Free
Exchanging Souvenir Post Cards is no longer a fad but a custom as firmly established as letter writing, and more convenient and pleasing. By entering this Exchange list you are enabled to accumulate cards from every state in the Union and Foreign Countries. To secure the appearance of your name in the Exchange list it is necessary to send three trial ten-cent five-months subscriptions to COMFORT, and 30 cents for same. We will send you a very fine Fifty Card Album for Post Cards, and your name will appear in the next available issue of COMFORT, and you will be expected to return cards for all received by you.

Miss Ida Louise Roberts, Montrose, Mich. Colored scenery—home town. Howard Pool, 1300 Main St., Kokomo, Ind. Views only. Miss Annie Groce, Mifflintown, E. D. 1, Pa. Mrs. Miles Jones, Vinton, Iowa. Views, scenery, would like birthday shower, April 9th. Mr. Elmer Franzura, Opal, S. Dak. Miss Emma Yager, Seheneck, N. Y. C. C. Bartol, Judith, Mont. Albin Peterson, Graston, R. D. 26, Minn. Florence S. Lee, Willametteville, Mo. Mrs. Lula Stevens, 1410 Marion Ave., Marion, Ind. Leonard Whaley, Box 65, Lucas, R. D. 1, Mich. Eugene J. Pittling, 207 No. Williams St., Moberly, Mo. C. Butler, Macon, Ky. Ed Ross, Box 37, Dover, R. D. 2, Ark. Sylvester Haven, Box 21, Wheatville, Minn. Miss Clara Meyer, Olin, R. D. 1, Ill. Miss Marion Barrett, R. D. 2, Fort, Mich. Thos. M. Dine, Fawcett, R. D. 2, Kan. Miss Blanch Sydenham, The Sidling, N. Y. Beatrice Rockwell, Hazleton, Indiana. Mrs. G. W. Badenstick, Albany, Wis. Besse Marcellus, 650 Francis St., Defiance, Ohio. Ernest Thompson, Bentonville, Va. Photo and scenery preferred. Miss Maggie Schum, Box 41, Bentonville, R. D. 3, Ark. John C. Peterson, Sanford, N. Dak. Mrs. J. O. Blodgett, East Barre, Vt. George Richey, Sparta, Neb. Virginia Mayer, Grenola, R. D. 3, Kans. Miss Una Reeves, Rigbins, Idaho. Mr. Francis E. Marcellus, 650 Francis St., Defiance, Ohio. Miss Bertie Sweet, Box 61, Mayville, E. D. 6, Ky. Mr. Noyes N. Crosser, Hill View, Box 62, Lake George, N. Y. W. F. Berch, Box 241, Htica, Neb. Miss Anna Schmoldt, Fruitland, Iowa. Mildred Neilson, Windsor, Wis. Miss Stella Thomas, 1311 N. 12th St., St. Louis, Mo. Mrs. Lula Ayers Williams, 215 E. Elm St., Zanesville, Ohio. Lillie Clement, 1100 Erwin St., Elkhart, Ind. Norman S. Keller, 318 Hanover St., Lebanon, Pa. Colored views and buildings only. Mrs. Mabel M. Crow, 723 No. St., Monmouth, Ill. Louise Gilstrap, 3392 La Grange St., Toledo, Ohio. Bessie Fink, Apollo, R. D. 2, Pa. Miss Ethyle Coleman, Lovelaceville, Ky. Lillie Stru-

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A Fourteen-Inch Neck Chain with pendant Heart. Pair of Baby Pins and a plain band ring all of 13 karat rolled gold plate, mounted and arranged on a very attractive heart-shaped velvet covered easel. A new idea, found among the Exclusive New York Stores last fall. Each of the five articles are of first quality, are a splendid gift collection arranged in an attractive manner to ornament a bureau, dresser or table. Every baby should have one of these beautiful combination sets, but the baby can't tell you it wants one, so you should send for it and derive the pleasure that surely will come from the gift. Warranted to wear well and not tarnish, in no way will you be disappointed, this we guarantee.

Club Offer. Send only four yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25c. each for one complete 5 Piece Set as illustrated and described. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Free Book About Cancer

THE LEACH SANATORIUM, of Indianapolis, Ind., has published a book on cancer, which gives interesting facts about the cause of cancer; tells what to do in case of pain, bleeding, odor, etc., instructs in the care of the patient, and is in fact a valuable guide in the management of any case. This book is sent free to those interested who write for it, mentioning this paper.

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January Big Cash Prizes Paid

We have paid to the following named persons the January Cash Prizes

SEE! We Paid \$150.00 for January First Prize Thrilled
We Paid \$75.00 January Second Prize Thrilled

The winners of the third and fourth prizes started in January, entered new that month. Entered for a March cash prize, and get your name in this Prize-Winner's list next month. It pays good and it makes you feel good. Look over our Great Subscription Prize Offer. March Prize Competition is just opening, so you have as good a chance as anybody for a March Prize if you START IN NOW. Enter now; Win in March; Win Double in April; Win a Grand Prize, too; Three Cash Prizes in two months.

January Prize-Winners

1st Prize \$50.00 (Thrilled to \$150.00)
ADA HUMPHREY, Woodbury, Ky. 2nd Prize \$25.00 (Thrilled to \$75.00)
The Next Four, \$3.00 Each, \$1.00 Thrilled
Mrs. F. E. Mulkey, Benton, Ill. Mrs. Jno. W. Glenn, Collier, R. D. 1, Kans. Mrs. Agnes Gness, No. 1102 Delaware St., Memphis, Tenn. Mrs. Claude S. Miller, No. 61 N. High St., Lock Haven, Pa.
The Next Five, \$2.00 Each, \$1.00 Doubled
Mrs. E. Butler, No. 402 Spruce St., Greenville, Ill. Clarence W. Bean, No. 2422 La Salle St., Chicago, Ill. Geo. A. Ferguson, No. 304 Old St., West Newton, Mass. C. A. Brown, No. 2708 Sturges St., Port Haron, Mich. Eva Clair Moon, No. 612 Murray Ave., Jamestown, N. Y.
The Next 21 Received \$1.00 Each
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The Following 100 Women Received a Consolation Prize of One Dollar Each
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The Pretty Girls' Club

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17.)

Hopeless.—Buy a bottle of Perfected Cod Liver Oil and take two tablespoonfuls after each meal. This will plump you. A glass or two of extract of malt every day would also help in the good work.

K. B. Brown-eyed Girls.—Bleach your freckles with diluted lemon juice. Drink four quarts of milk daily. Hold your hands in a bowl of warm olive oil daily for fifteen minutes as this will plump and whiten them.

Red Wing.—One way I would suggest to brighten the eyes is to give them a bath in a three per cent. solution of boric acid. Another way is to steep good green tea in rose-water, soak bits of absorbent cotton in the liquid and bind on at night. I do not know of the remedy you mention.

Greely, Colo.—If you were very silly, you could make your eyes seem larger by dropping bella donna in them, eventually injuring the eye sight. As you have some sense, you will undoubtedly, leave your eyes alone. There are two things you cannot do with safety—enlarge the eyes or change their color.

Mrs. G. P. O., Madge, Elmira A., Brown-eyed Girl, Mrs. Chas. Maria. Massage your scalp nightly for twenty minutes with this tonic:

Resorcin, one sixth of a dram; Castor oil, twelve drops; spirit of wine, five ounces; balsam of Peru, eight grains.

Dandruff Cure

Bay rum, five ounces; tincture of cantharides, one ounce; Olive oil, one ounce.

Cut off split ends. Switches cannot be dyed at home. Blue Eyes.—Sage tea is supposed to darken hair, but I do not think it is good for the hair.

Red Wing, Ala.—To make hair fluffy, put one teaspoonful of powdered borax in the shampoo, and be sure to rinse all soap out of hair.

Peggy, Anna, Blue-eyed Doll.—You must wear a rat around your head and comb your hair up over it. Wave it every night. As your hair is stiff, it means you must brush it every day.

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Maddy's Temptation

Or, A Heroic Sacrifice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

you can't deceive me; I know the secret of your abominable treatment of Maddy is jealousy."

"Guy—jealous, I jealous of that child?" and Agnes' voice was expressive of the utmost consternation.

"Yes, jealous of that child; you think that because the doctor has been kind to her, perhaps he wants her sometime for his wife. I hope he does; I mean to help it on; I'll tell him to have her," and Guy paced up and down the parlor, chafing and foaming like a young lion.

Agnes was conquered, and quite as much bewildered as Maddy had been; she heard only in part how Maddy Clyde was henceforth to be treated.

"Yes, yes," she gasped at last, as Guy talked on, "stop now for mercy's sake, and I'll do anything, only not this morning, my head aches so I cannot go to the breakfast table; I must be excused," and holding her temples, which were throbbing with pain induced by strong excitement, Agnes hurried to her own room and threw herself upon the bed, angry, mortified, subdued.

The breakfast bell had rung twice and at last Mrs. Noah came up herself to learn the cause of the delay; standing in the hall she heard a part of what was transpiring in the parlor. Mrs. Noah was proud and jealous of her master's dignity and once or twice the thought had crossed her mind that perhaps when he came home Maddy would be treated more as some governesses were treated by their employers, but to have Agnes take the matter up was quite a different thing, and Mrs. Noah smiled with grim satisfaction, as she heard Guy issuing orders as to how Miss Clyde should be treated. Standing back to let Agnes pass, she waited a moment, and then, as if she had just come up, presented herself before Guy, asking if he were ready for breakfast.

"Yes, call Miss Clyde; tell her I sent for her," was Guy's answer, and forthwith Mrs. Noah repaired to Maddy's room, finding her still sobbing bitterly.

"I cannot go down," she said, "my face is all stains, and it's so dreadful, happening on Sunday, too. What would grandma say?"

"You can wash off the stains. Come," Mrs. Noah said, pouring water into the bowl, and bidding Maddy hurry, "as Mr. Guy was waiting breakfast for her."

"But I am not to eat with them," Maddy began, when Mrs. Noah stopped her by explaining how Guy ruled that house, and Agnes had been completely routed.

This did not quiet Maddy particularly and her heart beat painfully as she descended to the parlor, where Guy was still walking up and down. "Come, Miss Clyde, Jessie is nearly famished," he said pleasantly, as Maddy appeared, and he drew Maddy's arm within his own, and giving a hand to Jessie, who had just come in, he went to the breakfast-room, where Maddy was told to reside.

Guy watched her closely without seeming to do so, mentally deciding she was very pretty, and very graceful for one so unaccustomed to society. Nothing was said of Agnes, who kept her room the entire day, and did not join the family until evening, when Guy sat upon the piazza with Jessie in his lap, while Maddy was not very far away. At first there was much constraint between Agnes and Maddy, but with Guy to manage, it soon wore away, and Agnes felt herself exceedingly amiable when she reflected how gracious she had been to her rival.

But Maddy could not so soon forget. All through the day the conviction had been settling upon her that she could not stay at Aikenside, and so on the following morning, just after breakfast was over, she summoned courage to ask Mr. Guy if she might talk with him. Leading the way to the library, he bade her sit down, while he took a chair opposite, and then waited for her to commence.

Maddy was afraid of Guy. He did not seem quite like Dr. Holbrook. He was haughtier in his appearance. Besides that, she remembered how his dark eyes had flashed when she told him what she did the previous day, and also that she had said to his face that she hated him. She could not bear to leave a bad impression on his mind, so the first words she said to him were:

"Mr. Remington, I can't stay here after all that has happened. It would not be pleasant for me or Mrs. Agnes, so I am going home, but I want you to forget what I said about hating you. I don't hate you. I like you, and I want you to like me."

She did not look at him, for her eyelids were cast down, and her lashes were wet with tears she could scarcely keep from shedding. There was something extremely fascinating in the artless simplicity of this half child, half woman, sitting there before Guy, and asking him so demurely to like her. She was very pretty, he thought, and with proper culture would make a beautiful woman. Then, as he remembered his avowed intention of urging the doctor to make her his wife some day, the idea flashed upon him that it would be very generous, very magnanimous in him to educate that young girl expressly for the doctor, and though he hardly seemed to wait at all, he replied to Maddy, he had in the brief interval framed a skeleton plan, and seen it in all its bearings and triumphant result.

"I am much obliged for your liking me," he said, a little mischievously. "You surely have not much reason so to do when you recall the incidents of our first interview. Maddy—Miss Clyde—I have come to the conclusion that I knew less than you did, and I beg your pardon for annoying you so terribly."

Then briefly, Guy blaming himself far more than he did the doctor, who, he said had repented bitterly.

"Had you died, Miss Clyde, when you were so sick, I half believe he would have felt it his duty to die also. He likes you very much; more indeed than any patient I ever knew him to have," and Guy's eyes glanced curiously at Maddy to witness the effect his words might have upon her. But Maddy merely answered:

"Yes, I think he does like me, and I know I like him."

Mentally chiding himself for trying to find in Maddy's head an idea which evidently never was there, he began to speak of her proposition to leave, saying he should not suffer it, Jessie needed her and she must stay. She was not to mind the disagreeable things Mrs. Remington had said. She would treat Maddy better hereafter, and she must stay. It was pleasanter for Jessie to have a companion so near her own age. Then, as he saw signs of yielding in Maddy's face, he continued:

"How would you like to turn scholar for a short time each day. I being your teacher? Time often hangs heavily upon my hands, and I fancy the novelty of the thing would suit me. I have books. I will appoint your lessons and the hour for recitation."

Guy's face was scarlet by the time he had finished speaking, for suddenly he remembered to have read or heard of a similar instance which resulted in the marriage of the teacher and

With prizes all sizes
It's funny big money
Don't tempt you to try.
O, stay not, delay not,
Get in it and win it;
Don't let them get by.

Pupil; besides that, it would subject him to so much remark, when it was known that he, the fashionable and fastidious Guy Remington, was becoming a pupil, and the girl like Maddy Clyde, and he sincerely hoped she would decline. But Maddy had no such intention. With her beautiful eyes full of tears, which shone like diamonds, as she lifted them to Guy's face, she said:

"Oh, I thank you so much. You could not make me happier, and I'll try so hard to learn. They don't teach such things at the district school; and when there was a high school in

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Honedale I could not go, for it was three dollars a quarter, and grandpa had no three dollars for me. Uncle Joseph needed help, and so I stayed at home. It's dreadful to be poor, but, perhaps I shall sometime be competent to teach in a seminary, and won't that be grand? When may I begin?"

Guy had never met with so much frankness and simplicity in anyone, unless it were Lucy Atherstone, of whom Maddy reminded him somewhat, except that the latter was more practical, more—he hardly knew what—only there was a difference, and a thought crossed his mind that if Maddy had all Lucy's advantages, and was as old, she would be what the world calls smart. There was no disparagement to Lucy in his thoughts, only a compliment to Maddy, who was waiting for him to answer her question. There was no retracting now; he had offered his services; she had accepted; and with a mental comment: "I dread doc's fun the most, so I'll explain to him how I am educating her for the future Mrs. Dr. Holbrook," he replied:

"As soon as I am rested from my journey, or sooner, if you like; and now tell me, please, who is this Uncle Joseph of whom you speak?" He remembered of what the doctor had said of a crazy uncle, but wishing to hear Maddy's version of it, put to her the question he did.

"Uncle Joseph is grandma's youngest brother," Maddy answered, "and he has been in the lunatic asylum for years. As long as his little property lasted, his bills were paid, but now they keep him from charity, only grandpa helps all he can, and buys some little nice things which he wants so badly, and sometimes cries for them. I picked berries all last summer, and sold them to buy him a thin coat and pants. We should have more to spend than we do, if it were not for Uncle Joseph," and Maddy's face wore a thoughtful expression, as she recalled all the shifts and turns she'd seen made at home that the poor maniac might be more comfortable.

"What made him crazy?" Guy asked, and at a moment's hesitancy Maddy replied:

"I don't believe grandma would mind my telling you. I only knew it a little while ago. He was disappointed once. He loved a girl very much and she made him think that she loved him. She was many years younger than Uncle Joseph—about my age at first—and when she grew up she said she was sick of him because he was so much older. He wouldn't have felt so badly, if she had not gone straight off and married a rich man who was a great deal older than even Uncle Joseph; that was the hardest part, and he grew crazy at once. It has been so long that he never can be helped, and sometimes grandma talks of bringing him home, as

he is perfectly harmless. I suppose it's wicked, but I must hope she won't, for it would be terrible to live with a crazy man," and a chill crept over Maddy, as if there had fallen upon her a foreshadowing of what might yet be. "Mr. Remington," she continued suddenly. "If you teach me, I can't of course, expect three dollars a week. It would not be right."

"Perfectly right," he answered. "Your services to Jessie will be worth just as much as ever, so give yourself no trouble on that score."

He was the best man that ever lived, Maddy thought, and so she told the doctor that afternoon when, as he rode up to Aikenside, she met him out on the lawn before he reached the house.

It did strike the doctor a little comically that one of Guy's habits should offer to turn school-teacher, but Maddy was so glad that he was glad too, and doubly glad that across the sea there was a Lucy Atherstone. How he wished that she was there now as Mrs. Guy, and he must tell Guy so that very day. Seated in Guy's library, the opportunity soon occurred, Guy approaching the subject himself by saying:

"Guess, Hal, what crazy project I have just embarked in."

"I know without guessing," Maddy told me, and the doctor's eyebrows were elevated just a little, as he crossed his feet upon the window sill and moved his chair so as to have a better view of Maddy and Jessie romping in the grass.

"And so you don't approve?" was Guy's next remark, to which the doctor replied:

"Why yes; it's a grand thing for her, providing you know enough to teach her; but, Guy, this is a confounded gossiping neighborhood, and folks will talk, I'm afraid."

"Talk about what!" and Guy bridled up as his independent spirit began to rise. "What harm is there in my doing a generous act to a poor girl like Maddy Clyde?"

"It's all right in you, but just because the poor girl is Maddy Clyde folks will talk. She is too handsome, Guy, for Madam Grundy to let alone. If Lucy were only here, it would be different. Why, in the name of wonder, are you two not married, if you are ever going to be?"

"Jealous, as I live!" and Guy's hand came down playfully on the doctor's shoulder. "I did not suppose you had got as far as that. You are afraid of the effect it may have on me teaching a sweet-faced girl how to conjugate A-m-o; and to cover up your own interest you bring Lucy forward as an argument. Eh, Hal, have I not probed the secret?"

The doctor was in no mood for joking, and only smiled gloomily, while Guy continued:

"Honestly, doctor, I am doing it for you. I

imagine you fancy her, as well you may. She'll make a splendid woman, but she needs educating, of course, and I am going to do it. You ought to thank me, instead of looking so like a thunder-cloud," and Guy laughed merrily.

The doctor was ashamed of his mood, and could not tell what prompted him to answer:

"I am obliged to you, Guy, but, as far as I am concerned, your project is no more than my trouble. If my wife needs educating, I can do it myself."

Guy was puzzled. Could it be that after all, he was deceived, and the doctor did not care for Maddy? It might be, and he hastened to change the conversation to another topic than Maddy Clyde. The doctor staid to dinner, and as Guy watched him closely, he made up his mind that he did care for Maddy Clyde, and this confirmed him in his plan of educating her for him.

Magnanimous Guy! He felt himself very good, very generous, very condescending, and very forgiving, the early portion of the afternoon; but later in the day he began to view Guy Remington in the light of a martyr, said martyrdom consisting in the scornful toss of the head with which Agnes had listened to his plan, and the open opposition of Mrs. Noah.

"Was he beside himself, or what?" this worthy asked. "She liked Maddy Clyde, to be sure, but it wasn't for him to demean himself by turning her schoolmaster. Folks would talk awfully, and she couldn't blame 'em; besides, what would Lucy say to his teaching a girl as pretty as Maddy? It was a duty he owed her, at any rate, to tell her about it, and if she said 'twas right, why, go in."

This was the drift of Mrs. Noah's remarks, and as Guy depended much on her judgment, he decided to write to Lucy to see if she had the slightest objections to his teaching Maddy Clyde. Accordingly he wrote that very night, telling her frankly all he knew concerning Maddy Clyde, and narrating the circumstances under which he first had met her, being careful also to repeat what he knew would have weight with an English girl like Lucy, to wit, that though poor, Maddy's father and grandfather Clyde had been gentlemen, the one a clergyman, the other a sea captain. Then he told of her desire for learning, and his plan to teach her himself, of what the doctor and Mrs. Noah had said about it, and his final determination to consult her. Then he described Maddy herself, and asked if Lucy feared aught from his association with her.

"If you do," he wrote, "you have but to say so, and though I am committed, I will extricate myself in some way, rather than wound you in the slightest degree."

It would be some time ere an answer to this letter could be received, and until such time Guy could not honorably hear Maddy's lessons as he had agreed to do. But Maddy was not suspicious, and accepting his trivial excuse, waited patiently, while he, too, waited for the letter, wondering what it would contain.

TO BE CONTINUED.



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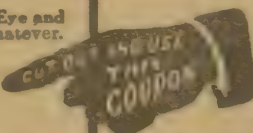
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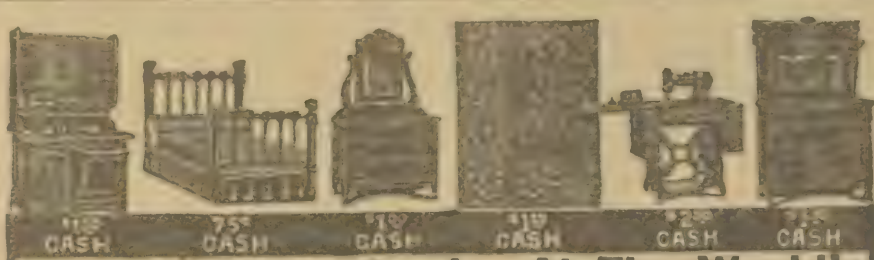
Brown's Close Call

By Eben E. Rexford

NOT long ago Brown, as somewhat under the weather, and thought a swig of bitters would do him good. Thereupon he went into the cellarway where he keeps a bottle of "Electric" on a shelf, for use in such a case as this, and without looking at the bottle, took a big swallow of its contents. "Seems to me that's queer-tastin' stuff," said Brown. "Whatever it is, I reckon I've got hold of the wrong bottle." He took it to the light and looked at it. The bottle had a big label on it. It said "Poison!" Brown turned ghastly pale, and then took a bee-line for the veranda where his wife sat sewing. "Jane, I'm done for!" he cried. "I've took p'ison. Did you put that bottle in the cellarway hopin' I'd get it? You hit it just right, if you did, for I've got a big dose of it. Oh, Lord! It's beginnin' to take effect a'ready. I'm all cramps inside. Feel's like I was a'fired. Then he dropped into the rocking-chair and began to groan as if the pangs of death had already overtaken him. "It can't be p'ison," declared Mrs. Brown. "There ain't a bit in the house, an' hain't b'en fer ever so long." "Don't you s'pose I can read?" cried Brown. "Look for yourself, if you don't b'lieve me. Oh, Lord, oh, Lord—this is terrible just terrible!" and he bent himself double with the pain at his vitals. Mrs. Brown took a look at the bottle, and then ran to the door and yelled, "Mis' Perkins!" at the top of her voice. Mrs. Perkins happened to be in her yard, and came in short order, expecting to find the house on fire, or murder about to be committed. "Oh, James—p'ison!" cried Mrs. Brown, dropping down on the doorstep, and beginning to cry. "Do somethin' for him, can't you? Oh, dear, oh, dear!" Mrs. Perkins grasped the situation. "Get some warm water an' mustard," she said. "Quick! What he needs is somethin' that'll make him throw up. Hurry, Mis' Brown!" Frightened Mrs. Brown succeeded at last in finding the mustard. Fortunately there was some warm water on the stove in the kitchen. The draught was prepared, and Brown drank about a quart of it. "Lay right down on the lounge an' let it work," ordered Mrs. Perkins. Accordingly Brown laid down, and waited for results, groaning feebly. Just then Mrs. Waite happened to be going by. Hearing Brown's groans and his wife's lamentations, she came in. "Ain't it dreadful?" said Mrs. Perkins, in most sepulchral tones, and looking as solemn as if she were already at the funeral. "Mr. Brown's took p'ison. I'm 'fraid we can't save him. He looks worse, ev'ry minnit." "He orter swallow eggs," said Mrs. Waite, very decidedly. "My John, he got holt o' the lodnubottle once, an' drank half o' it right down, but we give him eggs an' they fetched him out all right. Git some, Mis' Perkins,—quick's you can, an' we'll try 'em on him. But as you say, I'm 'fraid it won't be no use. He looks jest fretful, don't he?" Mrs. Perkins hesitated, having pinned her faith to mustard and water, but Mrs. Waite ignored that antidote, and demanded eggs, immediately. They were brought, and Brown was told to open his mouth and swallow their contents. He did—six times in succession—but at the seventh egg he began to cramp so badly that Mrs. Waite dropped most of the egg in his eyes, and concluded that perhaps it was just as well to give no more. "I don't b'lieves it's any use," she said. "It looks to me s' if he was likely to go real soon."

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Oh, there's Mr. Johnson! I'll holler to him to go after the doctor. He can't do no good, I know, but mebbe Mis' Brown 'll feel better to have him sent for. The neighbors can't say she didn't try to save her husband." Thereupon Mrs. Perkins bailed the man who was driving by, and told him to go after the doctor as fast as he could. "Mr. Brown's took p'ison, an' he's 'most gone—he can't possibly stan' it till he gits here—but you go for him, jest the same. Hurry!" Mr. Johnson started off on a gallop. "At the foot of the hill he met Green. "Perkins is dyin'—p'ison!" sang out Johnson, and was out of sight in no time. Green hurried to the house of his unfortunate neighbor. Mrs. Waite and Mrs. Perkins told him what they had done. "You'd orter ha give him lard—melted lard," declared Green. "I saved two o' my houn's that way, las' winter. 'It'll fetch 'em 'round when nothin' else will. Git some—quick's you can. Ef we c'n git him to swallow a bowlful mebbe 't'll do some good, though I souldn't wonder from his looks, that it's too late fer anything to help him. Hurry, Mis' Perkins." Mrs. Perkins brought the lard after holding it over the kitchen fire just long enough to soften it. "Now, Mis' Waite, you hold his han's an' Mis' Perkins, you hold his head, an' we'll pour it down him. Open your mouth, Brown—open it wide—an' down with it." Green proceeded to pour the half-melted lard down the poor man's throat in a big stream. It was like swallowing several yards of continuous candle. "There! Ef that don't help him nothin' will," said Green, as the bowl was emptied. "I don't jest know how't 'll act on fol's, but it's boss fer dogs. You jest let it git at the p'ison, an' somethin's goin' to be done. But I reckon, it's b'en so long sence he swallowed the stuff that it's got his innards purty well e't up, a'ready. That's why he cramps so—it's the p'ison a gnawin' gnawin', jest as a dog gnaws a bone. My, but don't he suffer though? I'm glad 't ain't me!" "He's sinkin'," whispered Mrs. Waite to Mrs. Perkins. "See how blue he's gittin' 'round the mouth. That's a sure sign!" "Hain't we better speak to Mis' Brown?" suggested Mrs. Perkins. "Mebby she'll want to say somethin' to him afore he gits so he don't sence anything. Mis' Brown, your husband's fallin' fast. I guess 't won't be long, now. Mebbe you'd better see if there's anything he'd like to say while he's in his right mind. I wouldn't wonder if he was out of his head, 'long tor'ds the last." Poor weeping Mrs. Brown tottered over to the lounge and managed to say through her sobs and tears: "How'd you seem to feel now, Ezzy?" "Gone—bout gone," answered her husband, with a great effort. "Oh, Jane, you don't know how I feel, here," he put his hands on his stomach. "I—I feel's like I was goin' to bust open." "He's bloatin'," whispered Mrs. Waite. "Poor man, he's putty nigh thru with his troubles, in this world." "It 'll be a blessin' when it's over, he suffers so," said Mrs. Perkins, and then the three women wept together. "Here's the doctor!" cried Green. "Johnson must ha' met him on the road, he's come so quick. But he can't do no good now—Brown's too fur gone." The doctor came up to the lounge and looked at Brown. "He's a sick-looking man, that's a sure thing," he said. "What's been done for him?" "I give him eggs—six of 'em," said Mrs. Waite. "He'd had a big bowlful o' mustard an' water afore that," said Mrs. Perkins. "An' I give him lard," said Green, "melted lard. That's the best of anything I know of for dogs, when they git p'ison. I saved two that way, las' winter." "No wonder he's sick if he's got all that stuff down him," said the doctor. "Where's the bottle he took the poison from?" The bottle was brought. The doctor looked at it. Then he smelt it. Then he tasted it. "I never saw anything like this before," he said. "I don't know what it is, but I don't believe it's poison. It says that, on the label, but I think there's a mistake somewhere." Just then Billy, Brown's eight-year-old son, appeared on the scene. He heard the conclusion of the doctor's remarks. "W'y, that ain't p'ison," he said. "That's jest water'n rawsberry juice. We had it a playin' drug store, t' other day. We found the paper that says p'ison on an ol' bottle in the woodshed, an' we soaked it off'n stuck it on our bottle. I guess we left it settin' 'round an' ma, she thought 'twas pa's me'dic'in', 'thout lookin' an' put it on the sullen shelf." Mrs. Brown looked at Billy apprehensively. "You'll ketch it when yer fa-ther gits 'round, I reckon," she said. "I reckon he won't have to wait," said Brown, getting up from the bed of death, and grabbing his son and heir by the collar. Then he set out for the woodshed with murderous intention, but fate interfered in favor of Billy. That is, temporarily. As soon as Brown got on his feet and attempted to move about such a commotion took place internally that he was reminded of the recent volcanic disturbances at Mt. Pelee, and was glad to relinquish his hold on Billy, and concentrate all his thoughts on himself. "It'll do him a sight o' good," said Mrs. Brown, looking at the matter philosophically, now



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TRYING TO BE A BANDIT

By Oney Fred Sweet

"HOLD UP your hands!" Cleve Rogers experienced self loathing at the echo of his own melodramatic words, but he was relieved of a good deal of anxiety as he noted their effectiveness upon his hearers.

The burning shed, which he had fired to bring the rancher and his daughter into the yard, made the midnight desert luridly weird, and Rogers was appreciative of the fact that his victims must be looking upon it all as a part of their disturbed dreams, for they both started at the sound of his voice which had now gained decision.

"I want the girl," he explained. "I'm going to take her with me, and you can only have her back by leaving five thousand dollars near the poplar tree on the Hot Springs road by tomorrow night at dusk."

There was a silence—an exasperating pause in the night.

"You understand what I want," continued the masked man peevishly, "and I warn you, if you value your life, that you don't try to have us captured."

Old Domengine, grizzled pioneer and owner of countless acres, shifted a bootless foot and squinted down the gun barrel that was being waved for emphasis.

"I understand," he answered huskily.

As for the girl, she responded dumbly as Rogers clutched her arm and led her with him toward the buggy hitched at the gate.

Now for the canyon, the anxious day's wait, the money and a safe "get-away" out of the country. Looking back over his shoulder, Rogers saw that the ranch house barely made an impression against the dying blaze, and he satisfied himself that, for the present at least, he was not going to be pursued. With concealed tenderfoot uncertainty he turned to the stretch of sand ahead, trailless under the stars. The horses coughed as matter of fact as if they were merely going to town. The girl at his side shivered.

The girl—

It was the first that Rogers had wondered about her. He took off his coat and with unconscious gallantry, placed it about her shoulders.

"Thanks," The word was said in low surprise.

He started at the sound of the girlish voice, but the commonplace with which the word was uttered somewhat helped to take the sting off his conscience for the devilish night's work.

He had just done enough to cause a frenzied mob to hang him—enough to have a sane court sentence him to prison for life. He had expected the girl to scratch and wail, or faint, perhaps.

There was no more words between them during the rest of the ride, and hours afterward they silently wound the bare foothills as the little mining town came into shadowy view—a town that had sprung up in a night following the finding of a nugget.

As rapidly, its tented streets would probably fade some day leaving but a rubbish of tin cans to mark its futile memory. Rogers knew that "Whiskey Row" had just gone to sleep and he wondered if the boys had missed him from the clink of glasses and the clatter of chips. What a little hell hole it was! How good it would be to leave it and forget it!

The "springs" lay back in the canyon—a nook which he had come across one day while prospecting, that came to him in a flash, when the plot first entered his perplexed brain. It was because of this refuge, which he believed to be known only to himself, that had made his melodramatic scheme seem feasible.

He tied the team, helped the girl out, and took in his surroundings that were beginning to change under the coming dawn. If they hunted him, the "spring" would be a splendid point of vantage, and somehow the possibility of their doing so seemed greater now than when the affair was being planned. The glare of day was making the whole thing seem different. He turned. The daylight was now fully revealing the girl. She stood staring at him in an attitude of half anger—half fear. They were desperately alone and he guessed what was going through her mind.

"I'm glad you're not scared. I'm glad the way you've taken it," he said with an effort. "I wouldn't harm you. There is but one motive at the bottom of this—just one accursed motive that is at the bottom of every act in this God-forsaken country."

It was the first time that he had been in the presence of a real woman since he had been in the state, and before he had finished, his eyes lowered in embarrassment.

"No, I ain't afraid," the girl replied, "cause I can tell now, you're not—not a real bandit."

Rogers felt of his stubby beard, looked down at his grimy clothes and alkali covered shoes and laughed. "What a picturesque one!" he exclaimed. "In the books I used to read, they always wore sashes at their belts and feathers in their hats."

"When you took off your mask, you had kind of a look," the girl went on, "as if maybe you'd just had it hard yourself."

The eyes of the man narrowed. The tired lines about his mouth tightened.

"Hard?" he echoed.

The girl's sympathetic word had opened the floodgates of memory. At first they were sweet memories that were from way back miles and miles beyond the miserable little mining town. They made the narrowed eyes grow wistful. They were of the shade that fell deep beneath maple trees, of a stream that used to deliciously cool his body when the days were warm, of bluegrass that grew so thick that it made a velvet carpet for his bare feet.

Then Rogers remembered the long ride on the train and the day that it had put him off at the Nevada station with the desire in his heart to get rich. That had been three years ago—an age ago and since then his soul had withered just as the transplanted streams and grasses would have withered. Three years he had been with men who had shut everything out of their hearts save the lust for gold—three years he had lived without the refining influence of a good woman. It had been an age away from all that his nature craved. It had been an eternity in hell.

Those thousand miles or so across the country had lengthened into impossible distances. The hope of going back had gradually dwindled. At last, to be sure, there had come the chance. It had thrilled his climate-thinned blood with a new throb. With all his saving and scrimping, there would be enough—enough to take him back home.

He had turned to the railroad maps again—the same maps that had lured him out. Then another chance had come—a chance to turn his simple savings into a fortune. Did not his most trusted associates tell him so? He had put in his money with almost a fawning glee, and the next day he had risen with complacency to look at the quotations on "Horned Toad" mining stock.

It had dazed him, he guessed—that awful disappointment, that sickening from complete loss of faith in his fellow man. He had looked at the figures for a moment and his eyes had blurred as the inanimate things seemed to take a cruel delight in mocking him. His shares were worthless, and more helpless than ever before he was stranded in the environment which he so deeply despised.

Out of his brooding had grown the plan to kidnap Old Domengine's daughter. He would never be able to get the money in any other way, and the rancher's riches were such that he would never miss it. Besides had they not heartlessly robbed him. Why shouldn't—

He was aroused by some slight, intentional sound from the girl, and looking up saw that she was waiting with an impatient interest for him to speak.

"You wouldn't understand," he answered lightly. "It's something you don't know about. You

never knew it like it is back home. You don't know what it is to be homesick. You never even saw that little watered square that they keep up over by the depot at Reno. When I get this money from your father, I'm going back where it's all like that."

The girl's French ancestry made her open wide her big black eyes. "I'd like to see it," she said. "This is all I've ever seen and of course it seems all right to me. But never thinks of going anywhere else, but just keeps on adding on more land 'cause it takes so much of it to keep a 'critter!' When they struck the mines on some of it, he said that some day I could go away to the convent for a while, but I've never gone and I've been grown up a long time."

"It may seem foolish, but I want to go back there and have it take all the wrinkles out of my soul again," he continued. "I want to have the train take me back through the orchards and fields and back into the little town where they all have trees and lawns and gardens, and where God sends showers once in a while. Here—"

Rogers put up his hands to shut out the view before him—the cloudless sky, the fenceless, roadless sand and sagebrush, and the awful glare baking the hot little town. His hands were becoming as thin and brown as a Mexican's, and the sun had started to wrinkle deep lines about his eyes.

"Come," broke in the girl, "didn't you bring something to eat?"

Rousing himself, the kidnapper went and brought from the buggy a sack containing a bit of bread and ham and began dividing it between them. Each moment as they ate, some new charm the girl possessed unfolded itself to her captor, who saw how little the desert had touched her olive cheeks, and how her dark hair hung all the more becomingly for lack of toilet.

Once he saw her stare at him, perplexed yet pleased by some little word of table etiquette he had dropped. Her presence took much of the strain off the hours, though now and again he would start at some fancied sound. Often he shaded his eyes to peer back over the desert, but they remained undisturbed while the sun rose high in the heavens and made shadows of noon beneath the uncanny plants of cactus.

The cactus shadows had shifted and lengthened to late afternoon when a noise from around the boulders caused Rogers to grasp his gun and scan cautiously in the direction from whence it had come. It was only a lizard, but it brought him back to his position. And then—what was that which appeared through the heat on the desert's edge? It caught Rogers' gaze and hypnotized him with its significance. At first merely a moving mass, then plainly the outline of men and horses. It was the posse.

Rogers laughed. It was a hard laugh and there was a wild look in his eyes. So this was to be the finish of his laid scheme? His freedom—his life—was to be limited to the length of time it would take that hungry group to cross the desert between.

Now the thought of keeping his pursuers at bay was not as pleasant as when he had thought his place of refuge secure. The idea of being a false hero and dying with a bravado speech on his lips, was without appeal. As they came nearer, Rogers fancied that one of the men dangled a rope.

So the old man had given the alarm. "Whiskey Row" had responded, and his pals of the town were taking keenest interest in joining the fun.

As they neared, the outlaw was able to make out several of the party—Jack McClure, the constable; Bob Chittendon, his deputy; Old Domengine, himself. There must have been twenty in the bloodthirsty crowd.

There was the opportunity of making a shield of the girl. It would at least prolong the capture, but even in that moment he knew—she was no longer to him the girl he had planned to merely use as a means to an end. Beyond the rocks that towered hopelessly behind was but starvation. There was nothing to do but feverishly finger his cartridge belt and wait.

The posse saw the girl first, and a hum of confused cries of recognition and revenge buzzed to the doomed man's ears. They were coming close—close. Rogers saw that it was time he took some action, and with his rifle half way to his shoulder, he arose to face his avengers. As he did so, he heard his name coupled suddenly with his oaths. He saw the leaders dart toward him. He saw that one of them indeed held a rope. Then there was a flash from one of their guns. Something struck him in the head with a thud and it grew dark.

Cleveland Rogers had looked upon persons from whom life had just passed and been filled with awe as to whether their souls had flown. He had often wondered, with that inquiring mind of youth, what the spirit thoughts had become, and if they knew what their friends were saying about their dead bodies.

Now, from out of the blur he saw McClure and Chittendon and the fellows from "Whiskey Row." But there was no anger in their faces. They were bending over him kindly. It was Old Domengine, himself, who was speaking:

"You've come around," the rancher was saying. "I wouldn't have shot if I hadn't thought you were the one who stole her. I'm mighty

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Every home needs wants—must have it. Women buy eagerly. Agents excited. Orders coming thick and fast. Brand new. Field untouched. Nothing ever like it before. **FREE SAMPLE TO AGENTS** Never such a seller. Never such a wonderful invention. Be quick—don't wait—experience unnecessary. Just listen! One woman made \$24 first half day. W. H. Morgan, Pa.: "Sold 45 Cleaners in 25 hours. Have sold 1 out of 3 persons canvassed." Marvellous results reported from every state. Read on about this great modern household invention. Millions have wanted—needed—for years. Only enjoyed by rich. But here at last for rich and poor. New Home Vacuum Cleaner—Blowing to all. Rushing, whirling, sucking air draws dirt, dust, germs from carpets, rugs, matting, while it remains on floor. Strange—bewildering—phenomenal. No electricity—no motors—no power. Operated in any home by child or frail woman. Weighs 8 lbs. Different from anything ever seen. Purifies atmosphere—wards off disease—stops doctor bills. Sucks dirt from carpets, rugs, matting—from crevices, beneath radiators, furniture, behind doors, closets, etc. Sold on demonstration. Women can't resist. Shown in three minutes. Sold in five. Then on the next. Women praise, make sales easy. Save drudgery, cleaning, dusting. Saves taking up carpets—saves time and money. No more brooms, brushes, dust cloths. No more backache. Never such a money maker—never such a blessing to women. Never such a chance to make money easy—**READ HOW THE MONEY ROLLS IN** quick. Big profit on every sale. But you must hurry. Agencies going. Everybody on the jump.

C. E. Goff, Mo.: "Sold 5 Vacuum Cleaners last Saturday, my first attempt." Gustave Anderson, Minn.: "Enclosed find order for 12 Vacuum Cleaners. Ship prompt. One sold a dozen 3 days." P. I. Pierce, N. Y.: "Wife more than pleased with Home Vacuum Cleaner. It does all and more than you claim for it." Prof. Geo. S. McDowell, Pa.: "Took 8 1-2 ounces fine dirt from carpet 10x13 feet." L. Banville, Ohio: "The New Home Cleaner greatest ever. Have arranged for demonstrations in stores." And so goes—all eager, all say "It's great." So hurry. You can't fail. Get busy now. Grand invention—great sales. (Hurry! Join the money makers!) Get this money. Don't be satisfied with small wages. Don't just exist. How splendid to always have money in abundance. Break away! Send today. Don't write a letter—just a card. Only write—that's all. Begin now to make money. Frank Williams, Nebr.: "Home Vacuum Cleaner a dandy; works to perfection, without raising dust."

DON'T WORK FOR WAGES Gain freedom from drudgery, long hours, bossism, job hunting. We want more Agents, Salesmen, Managers—Men and women, at home or traveling, all or spare time to fill orders, appoint, supply, control sub-agents. You can't make a mistake. Listen! John Logan gave up \$12 job driving team now makes \$60 weekly. Writes "Sold 15 cleaners today. Success is sure." That's the way they all read—So hurry and write. **SEND NO MONEY**—Just your name on a card. We'll send full instructions and offer good territory. We'll help; we'll start you making money. Write. **R. ARMSTRONG MANUFACTURING CO., 684 Alms Building, CINCINNATI, OHIO.**

glad it's only a slight wound, for she has just told us how you fought with me rascal and was bringing her home.

Because of his weak condition, it was with an effort that Rogers raised himself to locate the girl. She was standing apart, her face away from them towards the town, but he sank back with a smile of happiness on his white lips.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.)

which is Douglas, have absolutely refused to give me any financial assistance, and have suggested that I go to the poorhouse, the thought of which is very detestable to me, and has induced me to appeal to the cousins' generosity for aid, as a last resort. Thanking you in advance for any aid you may render me in my affliction and asking God to bless you all, I am sincerely your friend, JOHN H. KEATON.

John's letter is a sad one indeed. All but six years of his life, he has been crippled. In spite of his affliction he writes splendidly and can put to shame many who have had far greater advantages than he. If this poor fellow is sent to the poorhouse he will at least cost the county three dollars a week to keep him. Would it not be far more humane and Christlike to help support these poor souls in their own homes where they can have the loving care of those near and dear to them than drag them into these wretched county institutions where if there is any nursing at all it is done by other unfortunates who usually have enough troubles of their own and have little desire to lift the burdens of others. There is still a good deal of brutality and inhumanity in our treatment of the unfortunate sick. We should not only have old age pensions, but those who are incurably ill with no chance of recovery should also be pensioned, and the pension in their case should be double that of those in health, for the needs of the sick are always greater than the needs of the well. If you can send any sunshine into the life of this poor brother of yours or suggest to him any way by which he may be able to earn sufficient to keep him out of the poorhouse, I shall be indeed grateful.

League Sunshine and Mercy Work for March

(Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these ye have done it unto Me.)

Written references must positively accompany all appeals from shut-ins. Appeals unaccompanied by references will be destroyed.

Mrs. Satterlee, Berlin, N. Y. Poor, helpless old lady. Wish you would brighten this dear old soul's hours of suffering and loneliness. Shall be grateful if you will. Joseph Morpew, Trade, Conn. Confined to bed for twelve years. Has organic heart disease, and chronic disease of the liver. Lives in a wretched leaky little cabin, with his poor old mother. She gathers roots in the summer for a living. They need money for food, fuel and treatment. Sad and very worthy case. Please help them. Alex. Shelton, Murray, Ohio. Boy of fifteen, has not walked for five

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 32.)

DIAMONDS ON CREDIT

A DIAMOND FOR AN EASTER PRESENT Let us send you a Diamond or Watch on approval. If satisfactory, pay one-fifth down and keep it, balance in 5 monthly payments. Write for Free Catalog. Bros. & Co. Dept. C 62, 92 to 98 STATE ST. CHICAGO, ILL.

WATCH, RING FREE

American Movement Watch. Solid engraved case, warranted time keeper, chain and Ring with sparkling Gem free for sending 10c jewelry. Write for Free Catalog. When additional \$2.00 we send Watch, Ring and Chain. **COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO., Dept. 105, East Boston, Mass.**

ASTHMASOL

for the permanent relief of asthma, hay fever and bronchitis. RHEUMASOL for the relief of Rheumatism. Three weeks treatment of either delivered by mail for \$2.00. Promptness given to inquiries and orders. **Weller Chemical Co., successors to GOWEN CHEM. CO., HALIFAX, N. S., DEPT. C.** Write for testimonials of permanent cures.

TOOK OUT HER WRINKLES

Mrs. Jennie Thompson, living at E. 1315 Admiral Blvd., Kansas City, Mo., removed her wrinkles by a simple process at home. It also cleared her complexion and whitened her skin. She has nothing to tell, but says she will gladly tell anyone writing her what she used.

GET MORE FOR YOUR FUR

Call on your fur, phoning and tides. We pay more for them than any other buyer in any other town or city in the world. Pure or mixed furs from 10 to 50¢ per pound. More than you can get at home, no matter where you live. If you trap or buy fur send today for our free catalogue, trappers' guide and market report. Free for the asking and worth money to you. Write today! This advertisement may be accepted again. **CORRY HIDE & FUR COMPANY, P. O. Box No. 127, CORRY, PA.**

BOYS LOADS OF FUN FOR 10 CTS.


Ventriloquists' Double Throat. Wonder invention. Fits roof of mouth; invisible, imitates birds and animals. Used by great Wizard Herman before the Crown Heads of Europe. Astonish and mystify your friends, biggest thing yet. Thousands sold. Only 10c, 4 for 35c, 12 for 50c. **States Music Co., Box 51, Dept. 20, Melrose, Mass.**

CROWN YOUR TEETH

With our gold inlaid shells and feel your friends. Great full, convincing dentures work. Ships over the toothbrush adjusted, removed at will. Over two million sold. Thousands of pleased customers. Price 10c each; 4 for 35c; 12 for 50c. **C. Y. FARO, Dept. C, FRENCHTOWN, N.J.**

UNCLE CHARLIE'S POEMS AND SONG BOOK.

Poems, Cloth bound, 50 cents. Song Book, 30 cents. Address, **UNCLE CHARLIE, care Comfort, Augusta, Maine.**



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KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

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Women who want to work at home, who want to turn their spare moments into ready cash, will find this the greatest opportunity ever offered them. Hundreds and thousands of women, whom we have taught the American System of Dressmaking, will tell you they are earning and saving much more than they ever dreamed they would be able to do before taking our course of instruction. You can do quite as well as they have done.

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This handsome book sent free. Our new book on dressmaking recently published is proving to be of great value to thousands of women who have secured a copy of it. At an expense of thousands of dollars this College has published 100,000 of these copyrighted books to advertise the American System of Dressmaking, and, while they last, will send you a copy free. Write for it day. One copy only to each woman. Requests filled in order received.

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Qualify yourself to do all your home sewing, or start in business for yourself. These lessons will enable you to dress better at one-half the usual cost. The American System is most simple and complete. These lessons will teach you to Design, Draft, Cut, Fit, Make, Drape and Trim any Garment, including children's clothing. The regular diploma issued to all who graduate. Use the **FREE-BOOK** coupon, now.

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83 Commerce Bank Building, Kansas City, Mo., U. S. A.

Please send me free book and explain how I can learn to do my own sewing, become a professional dressmaker, and qualify for a good income.

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Street and No.....

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Write to This Woman Today

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

"What Is the Wonderful Passion Play?"

No wonder that so many of our readers have written to ask this question of COMFORT, because it is attracting the attention of the world, and there is scarcely a paper or magazine that has not made some allusion to it since the incoming of the new year. It is one of the wonders of the world concerning which anybody nowadays is ashamed to betray his ignorance.

THE PASSION PLAY

is the wonderful theatrical performance of a sacred drama representing the suffering and crucifixion of the Saviour, acted and lived in sincere reverence by simple peasant folk, as a religious ceremony, in fulfillment of a holy vow made by their forefathers centuries ago in devout recognition of the blessings of Divine Providence.



Once in ten years the little village of Oberammergau, in the mountains of Bavaria, emerges from its obscurity, and becomes the most interesting community in the world. Tens of thousands of people, not only from every country in Europe and from America, but from Asia, Africa and South America, visit it to attend the performance of "The Passion Play."

There are about 1,400 people in Oberammergau, and most of the population makes its living by wood-carving. But one half of this total population, or something over seven hundred men, women and children, participate in the Passion Play.

Nearly three hundred years ago the bubonic plague, the scourge of Asia, then called the black death, invaded Europe and its terrible devastation reached this little village and threatened to exterminate its people. In terror they fled to their church and solemnly vowed that if God in His mercy would deliver them from the plague they would commemorate His goodness by rehearsing before the world the great drama that culminated in the crucifixion of our Lord, to be performed once in ten years by them and their descendants forever. The plague soon ceased and the production of the play, in fulfillment of this vow, continues to the present day.

The year 1910 will witness the regular decennial performance of the play. The actors are chosen by the leading men in the village who first attend the church and then lock themselves in the Town House and do not come forth till all parts have been assigned. Those who are assigned prominent parts accept them as the realization of a life ambition and those who have humble parts perform them as sacred duty. It is this spirit of loyalty and reverence that makes this play so well beloved by people in all parts of the world.

Those who are to act the principal parts are selected when children and are carefully trained from early youth to the extent that not merely on the stage do they act, but in daily life they actually live, their parts. For instance, the man who this year takes the part of Christ has from infancy been studying and living the life of Jesus until his every thought and act and look is Christlike and he has developed a character as near to that of Christ as is humanly possible. And he is not the only worthy imitator of Jesus in that little village, for the play is of such importance that they cannot take chances on the uncertainty of human life, and so they have a number always in training for each important part.

What a lesson this is to the professed Christians of the rest of the world; what an example of the way that children should be reared by Christian parents. If even our ministers of the Gospel would follow the example of the natives of this mountain village how much greater would be their influence in converting and reforming the world?

For these reasons the Passion Play is justly famous and little Oberammergau is an inspiration to the world.

Numerous efforts have been made by professional actors to reproduce the Passion Play on the debased stage of the great cities—notably in New York some years ago—but such exhibitions have been prohibited by the authorities as sacrilegious; for the public are shocked at the thought of stage heroes whose reputations are no better, to say the least, than the average, impersonating the Saviour on the theatrical stage for filthy lucre. Even this age of dollar-worship frowns on such degradation of holy things.

But the sincere work of these peasants is regarded as a religious duty, a solemn and beautiful legacy, and the people literally live for it; and that is why it commands the admiration of the world.

VIEW OF OBERAMMERGAU.—A few hours' journey from Munich brings us to Oberammergau, the pretty little village which nestles among the Bavarian mountains.

THE OBERAMMERGAU MONUMENT.—As we enter the village we see on the mountainside above us the beautiful cross erected by King Ludwig, who was a liberal patron of the Play. He was known as the "Mad King" and was finally confined in an asylum, but not until his madness had decorated Munich with beautiful works of art, and made it one of the loveliest cities in Europe.

THE MONASTERY AT ETTAL.—From our hotel we drive through the valley to the Monastery of Ettal, protected by the over-shadowing cliffs. It was fortunate for the peasants that the mon-

astery was there, for its monks have rendered great service in developing the music and words of the play.

PERFORMANCE OF THE PASSION PLAY DESCRIBED.—The play is given in a great theater, seating 4,200 people. The audience is sheltered from sun and storm, but the performers are exposed to the weather, and the play goes on whether it rains or shines. The stage, which represents a street in Jerusalem, and which has changing backgrounds, is so set against the hills that wall in the valley, that the real mountains are seen at all times behind the scenery of the stage.

THE MUSIC OF THE PASSION PLAY is an evolution, and in its present form is to be credited to Rochus Dedler, of this village, who first intended to be a priest, and afterwards turned his talents to the opera. In 1802 he was appointed choir-master, and he died in 1822 in the prime of life, but not till he had given to the Passion Play a much more beautiful musical setting than that which it had inherited from the middle ages.

THE TEXT OF THE PASSION PLAY is largely taken from the New Testament, and was evolved during the middle ages, and revised in the early years of the nineteenth century. An attempt was made, in 1890, to further modify the text, which has been criticized, but the Bavarian King, Ludwig, was much in favor of the old-time text, so this remains as it has been.

THE PRIOR OF THE PASSION PLAY portrays the stirring events in that part of the Saviour's earthly mission which began with His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, now commemorated by Palm Sunday, and ended with His resurrection on the following Easter Sunday; thus it covers a period of eight days, and a single performance occupies eight hours' time. Beginning at eight o'clock in the morning and continuing until late afternoon with an intermission only for the noon-day meal, so that nearly all the dialogue of the Passion Week can be given, besides many choruses and tableaux. The tableaux are from the Old Testament, and are closely related to the New Testament scenes which they precede.

DESCRIPTION OF SCENES FROM THE PLAY

THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY.—The period of the play covers the last week of the Master upon the earth, and it opens with His triumphal entry into Jerusalem seated on an ass. In gladness the people hail Him as Israel's deliverer, waving palm leaves and casting their garments in the way before Him.



CHRIST BLESSING HIS DISCIPLES.—The events of the last week crowd fast upon each other and leave little opportunity for the Master to be alone with His faithful followers. At such times as they are alone, He takes occasion to warn them of His crucifixion and to leave His blessing with them.

PREPARING THE LAST SUPPER.—It is the time of the Passover and Jesus decides to eat it with His disciples in Jerusalem. Accordingly He sends two of them away before Him, from Bethany, where He has been lodging for five days, to Jerusalem, where they seek out an upper room and make ready the Last Supper.

CHRIST AND MARY MAGDALENE.—While Jesus and his disciples are in Bethany before they go up to Jerusalem, He takes dinner in the house of Simon the Leper; and there Mary came to Him, and washed His feet and dried them with her hair, putting on precious ointment. Judas murmured against her, but Jesus said, "Let her alone; against the time of my burial bath she does this."

THE LAST SUPPER.—In the upper room the twelve gather to eat the Last Supper with their Lord. There Jesus warns them that He is to be delivered into the hands of sinful men; and while He is yet speaking, Judas slips away to betray Him.

IN GETHSEMANE.—They went from the upper room to the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed that if it were God's will the cup of His suffering might pass from His lips. There Judas came with the officers of the High Priest to take Him.

THE BETRAYAL.—The soldiers fall back a little, awed by His majesty but Judas moves forward and kisses Him, the signal agreed upon His betrayal. Then the soldiers take Him and lead Him away.

CHRIST'S TRIAL.—Before the seventy rulers of the Jewish nation, who make up the Sanhedrin, or Supreme Court, He is led for trial. It is a travesty on justice, for His judges are actuated by jealousy and hatred and condemn Him unjustly.

CHRIST BEFORE CALAPHAS.—The High Priest, Calaphas, also desires to hear Him, for Jesus has been accused of blasphemy. With a dignity that wins respect even from His accusers, Jesus submits to the ordeal; and those who are about Him marvel at His dignity and heroism.

CHRIST BEFORE HEROD.—Jerusalem was under Roman dominion, and the Jews were not allowed to impose sentence of death. Therefore the Jewish priesthood that had caused Christ's arrest and had condemned Him had to bring Him before Pilate, the Roman Governor, to have sentence imposed. Pilate decided that Jesus was not guilty of any crime according to the Roman laws and wanted to set Him free; but the Jews clamored so insistently for crucifixion that Pilate, not wishing to bear the brunt of their displeasure, sent Him to be tried by Herod, the king appointed by the Roman emperor as nominal ruler of the Jews, to see whether Jesus had broken any Jewish law. But Herod found Him innocent. This is described in the New Testament and is one of the scenes in the play which, like the others, is beautifully depicted on the Passion Play post cards in colors which faithfully reproduce the splendid official apparel and the gorgeous sacerdotal regalia. The magnificent and costly costumes are perfect representations of those worn in Bible times; the materials are imported from the Orient, and the making up of the stage clothes takes all the spare time of the villagers for a year.

Unfortunately the two half-tone pictures which illustrate this article are so blurred and indistinct as to be a very poor apology for the clearly engraved and exquisitely colored cards whose beauty and delicacy cannot be reproduced on a printing press. We print them here merely to give an idea of the grouping and pose of the figures.

JESUS MOCKED.—The rough soldiers know Him only as a wandering Jew, who has claimed to be king; and while He awaits in patience for the final trial, they sneer at Him and bow down before Him in mockery.

THE SCOURGING.—And then, while His enemies stand by to gloat over Him, the Son of Man is bound and scourged, until the flesh is lacerated and great scars are on His back.

CROWNING WITH THORNS.—The soldiers crown Him with thorns and put a reed in imitation of a scepter in His hand, in mockery, and cry out in bitter taunts, "Behold the King of the Jews."

THE THORN-CROWNING KING.—There is not a word of reproach or rebuke from Jesus. He who came to save the world stands mute and suffering before His persecutors, who mock His kingly claims by this painful coronation.

JESUS BOUND TO A COLUMN.—They lead Him out and bind Him to a column. It was a bitter moment in the life of Him who had come unto His own, only to be rejected by them.

THE CRUCIFIXION.—And so they crucified Him between two thieves, on Calvary. And when the cruel nails had done their work, and life was gone out of Him, friends came and took Him down tenderly from the cross. The scene is enacted with such power, and the suspension on the cross is such a severe ordeal, lasting about twenty minutes, that the representative of Jesus, when taken down, is frequently in a fainting condition.

THE DESCENT FROM THE CROSS.—So realistic are the dying agonies on the cross that the audience, thrilled to the soul, sobs and groans in irrepressible sympathy, and so intensely are the feelings wrought up that the twenty minutes of this ordeal seems like hours. But one of the most affecting scenes is the "Descent from the Cross," in which the dead Jesus is taken down by his sorrowing friends in the presence of His heartbroken mother and the faithful Magdalene, who stand at the foot of the cross to receive and tenderly care for His body.

THE ENTOMBMENT.—Jesus had not many friends among the men of power and wealth, but there were a few. One of these, Joseph of Arimathea, went to Pilate and obtained the right to lay His body away in his own tomb.

THE RESURRECTION.—Lest His disciples should come to take the body away, at the request of the High Priest, Pilate ordered the tomb sealed and put a guard before it. But no seal could shut away His glory. On the third day He rose, and appeared near the tomb before the two

Marys and Salome, who had come to the tomb also.

THE TABLEAUX

ADAM EARNING HIS BREAD.—So ends the play proper. But the story is interrupted at various points in order to introduce some beautiful and suggestive tableaux of scenes in the Old Testament which lead up to the advent of Christ. The first of these represents Adam and Eve after they have been cast out of the garden, and are compelled to earn their bread by the sweat of their brows.

SAMSON PULLS DOWN THE TEMPLE OF THE PHILISTINES.—With a fine sense of the dramatic the players have selected the moment when Samson, the strongest of the Israelites, pulls down the two great pillars that support the Philistine temple and perishes there in the midst of his enemies. We have not space in this article to mention the other impressive tableaux.

SOME OF THE CHIEF CHARACTERS

CHRIST.—In 1900, as well as this year, the Christ is Anton Lang, the village potter, who, because of his selection for this part, is held in the highest honor by the neighbors. The scene where he kneels and prays in the garden before his betrayal, shows him at his best.

SIMON PETER.—An humble fisherman, who followed loyally in the footsteps of his Master. Peter grew in faith and in power, and became at last the chief apostle, and the "cornerstone" upon whom Christ built His Church.

MATTHEW, author of the first Gospel, whose picture heads this article. Nathaniel, a loyal disciple. Andrew, a disciple. Philip, another disciple. Thomas, the doubting disciple. James, a favorite disciple. John, the beloved disciple. Jesus, who climbed the tree to see Jesus. Bartholomew, a disciple. Simon, the Canaanite, a friend. Simon of Cyrene, compelled to bear Christ's cross. Pilate, the Roman Governor. Herod, the Jewish King. Calaphas, the high priest. Mary, mother of Christ. Mary Magdalene.

OLD TESTAMENT CHARACTERS

Prominent among the many Old Testament characters represented in the spectacular tableaux are the following:

Moses, the liberator of the Jews. Samuel, the divine prophet. Joshua, the mighty leader. Nathan, the fearless prophet who dared rebuke King David.

LIKE A HOLY PILGRIMAGE

Only one year in ten is this divine tragedy presented, and even then the performances are only on Sundays and Wednesdays of each week and on the regular holidays, for these peasant actors have to carry on their trades and attend to cultivating their little farms and gardens between times.

More than one hundred and eighty-five thousand strangers visited this little village to attend the performance of the Passion Play ten years ago, and it is estimated that the attendance this year will be half as large again.

You may well imagine, that with only one small hotel the accommodations of every house in the village are taxed to their utmost to feed and shelter such a throng of strangers, and it seems almost startling to be served at table by Saint Peter, or Mary Magdalene, or perhaps even by him whom you have seen crucified in verisimilitude of the Lord. In fact it is a great

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We will send free to all Razor customers on receipt of their final payment this fine \$1.00 stop.

Some send 50c with their answer to this advertisement—some don't—Suit yourself.

HARRIS-GOAR CO. 1144 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo.

PARALYSIS Locomotor Ataxia Unconquered Last Chase's Blood & Nerve Tablets does it. Write for Proof. Advice Free. Dr. CHASE, 224 North 10th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

20 Beautiful Post Cards 10c

Lovely assortment of 20 Artistic Birthday, Friendship, Good Luck, Roses and Flowers in exquisite colors, all for only 10 cents, if you answer this ad immediately. J. H. Seymour, 189 W. Eighth St., Topeka, Kan.

point with visitors to try to engage board in the families of those who act the principal parts in the play. But the price and the simple peasant fare is the same wherever you happen to be entertained.

Those who are slaves to the luxuries of life had best stay at home. In reality a journey to the Passion Play has many of the characteristics of a holy pilgrimage.

THE INSPIRING EFFECT OF THE PASSION PLAY on those who see it is well worth the fatigue and expense of the journey to Oberammergau which thousands make, even from the uttermost parts of the Earth.

To those who cannot afford this privilege,

THE PASSION PLAY POST CARDS

fifty in number and vividly depicting fifty-five of the actual scenes, tableaux and characters in the play, and its surroundings are such a beautiful and impressive substitute that they should be in every Christian home for their spiritual and religious influence on the family.

Mr. Gannett, the Publisher of COMFORT, who saw the Passion Play performed ten years ago, by arrangement with the authorized publishers of the cards, procured a large lot of the new set of *Passion Play Cards* as soon as they were printed, in order that such of COMFORT's readers as appreciate the privilege may be among the first to possess them.

The cards which COMFORT offers are authentic being colored reproductions of photographs from actual life.

They are a beautiful sermon in colors, which illuminates the story of Christ's sacrifice for the redemption of the world and anybody that owns and studies them will be the better Christian for their vitalizing effect on his faith.

How to See This Divine Tragedy FREE

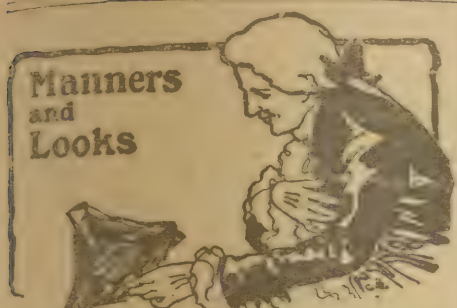
While our present supply lasts, we will mail to those who address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, the entire set of 50 cards as a premium FOR A CLUB OF ONLY TWO YEARLY SUBSCRIBERS to COMFORT at 25 CENTS EACH.

Subscribers who renew their expiring subscriptions this month, March, on the envelope renewal blank, may obtain a full set of the cards by sending us 50 cents instead of 30 cents for their two-year renewals.

REMEMBER, we take renewals this month at the special two-years-for-thirty-cents rate only if sent in on the envelope folder renewal blank; and we send that renewal blank this month only to those whose subscriptions are about expiring. If you receive the renewal blank wrapped in this paper it gives you the privilege of renewing two years for only 30 cents, or by sending 20 cents more, 50 cents in all, you get a two-year renewal. Your subscription to COMFORT and receive the full set of 50 superb Passion Play cards sent postage prepaid.

INSPIRING EASTER PICTURE on April COMFORT's title page and instructive discourse on the resurrection that will interest all and strengthen the Christian's faith. Remember your subscription.

THE DESCENT FROM THE CROSS



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT readers on the kindred subjects of *Etiquette and Personal Appearance*, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to *Etiquette Editor, COMFORT* Augusta, Maine.

G. C. B., Forum, Okla.—Men quite frequently these days wear rings on each hand, but not more than two, and usually they contain some stone or other. You can wear a diamond on one hand and an opal on the other, but we think one would be plenty. Why not make an engagement ring of the two carat diamond and give it to a girl? Wear the opal yourself, for luck. Silk shirts may be worn at the wish of the wearer, but they are not worn by classy men so much as madras and that kind. They are rather nifty in summer with flashy fannels and without a coat. But don't wear pants. By the way, ain't pants silk shirts and diamond rings rather the hot kibosh for Forum, Oklahoma?

Blue-eyed Mary, San Juan, Cal.—Leave the settlement of the matter to the man most interested—your husband. You had better leave him than continue as you are.

Brown Eyes, Cowden, S. C.—If the girl says you may go with other girls and then scraps with you about it, our advice is to go with the other girls to the exclusion of the scrapper. Why do you quarrel now? Getting used to it so you won't notice it when you are married? Quit it.

Silent Belle, Petersburg, W. Va.—It is proper to invite your escort into the house after church, if it is not late. (2) Of course, the lady should be consulted as to the kind of present her best young man was thinking of giving to her. And especially, if she will accept it, or not. (3) If the lady would like to hear from her "gentleman friend" again, why shouldn't she close her letter by the pleasant hope that she may? P. S. It is not quite elegant to say "gentleman friend." Fashionable persons don't.

X. W. Z., Trent, Texas.—Yes, you did make love to her, too. At least you let her think so. Don't talk like that to us. We know. We were a boy once ourselves. They all do it. However, if you don't love her and do love her sister, which we doubt, there is nothing for you to do but make the best excuse you know how and get off with the old love so you can get on with the new. Our opinion is that the girl's sister ought to give you the jilt as soon as convenient.

Madeline, Searles, Ala.—There is no harm in holding a young man's hand—that is to say, holding it as far away from you as you can. (2) It is all right for girls to go to a dance with a chaperon and date with the young men there, but not to go alone, unless it is a small dance where everybody knows everybody else. Why don't the Searles young men take the girls to the dances? (3) A post card may be sent to most anybody nowadays, but not to strangers.

Puzzled Blue Eyes, Roy, Ia.—Well, an Iowa girl who doesn't know that the third finger of the left hand is where the engagement ring fits, who doesn't know that the lady always sets the date of the wedding, and that opals are not unluckier than any other stones. How did it ever happen that you haven't learned all about things like these? Roy isn't a very large city, is it?

Hazel Eyes, Zion City, Ill.—It isn't the best manners for a young fellow to step up alongside of a girl he knows and just walk along home without asking her permission, formally, but in small towns, or among friends, rules of etiquette are not strictly observed. People would be very stiff and artificial creatures if they were. Still, too much easy going manners must not be permitted. You must be your own judge. (2) Etiquette hasn't much control of the post-card fever now raging, and you may send them to any acquaintances of either sex, whether in response to another or not. But don't send one to the young man who owes you one. Lose your interest in him if he has lost his in you. It is not ladylike to chase a young man.

A. B. C., Salt Lake City, Utah.—Don't buy a present for a girl you are not going with unless you are very good friends and you know she will appreciate it. (2) Etiquette does not prescribe definite rules for store manners, and only the very polite men raise their hats to lady clerks when approaching their counters or leaving. It is not bad manners to do so; on the contrary it is a very nice recognition of a working girl, but it is not the general custom. Of course, if you know her, that would make some difference, but even then it is not the same as if you met her anywhere outside of the store. You may do as you please, but don't get too far away from usage.

Anxious Inquirer, Monet Vista, Col.—When skating with an escort and you both fall, you may remain on the ice till he can get up and help you, but as a rule when anybody falls on the ice it knocks a skater completely over and the first impulse is to scramble to one's feet as quickly as possible. Besides, ice is no warm cushion to sit on waiting for somebody to help you up, is it? It is quite proper to steady yourself while he is putting on your skates by putting your hand on his shoulder.

Touch-me-not, Springfield, Mo.—Really, we don't know how you are to know whether your best young man is in earnest or not when he asks you to marry him except by marrying him. That would settle it, beyond any question. Most girls find out the hard way. But don't marry him at seventeen. Your parents ought to be ashamed of themselves to permit it, and the young man, who wants a girl to marry him at that age, isn't fit to have a wife. If he will not wait till you are older you should be glad not to have such a husband.

Girls, Leeds, N. Dak.—Older people tickle children under the chin simply as a sign of kindly interest and because the children seem to like it. We suppose your young man tickles you that way for the same reason. If you don't like it, why do you permit it?

Laughing Eyes, Colton, S. Dak.—It does look a little like second choice when he asks the girl next to you for the dance and she being taken he asks you, but it is often done and nothing thought of it. You might have declined, but why lose the dance just to show him that you resented being asked second? Over-sensitive people lose a great deal in this world which they might just as well have. (2) You must work out your own problem of how to be attractive in a crowd. But bear in mind that it is not always the most attractive girl in the crowd that is the most attractive girl at home—and home is the place to be most attractive.

Anxious Girl, Caldwell, W. Va.—Girls of sixteen wish their parents' consent may accept the escort of young men. (2) What's in a name? What harm could there be in persons of the same name going together? (3) If it is late when they get home the talk at the house should be very brief. Of course, it is not right for them to kiss each other good night, but how many of them care whether it is right or not? Do you?

Brown Eyes, Flemington, N. J.—Perhaps a girl of thirty has not as much chance of marrying as one of twenty, but the chances are that the man who gets her will get a more satisfactory wife than the younger one would be. That is, if she has not been soured by disappointment in not getting married sooner. Some girls of thirty are that kind, and they should never have a chance. The others are the salt of the matrimonial earth. The most undesirable wives are those who are the most anxious to become wives.

S. B. A., Averill Park, N. Y.—Deafness, even partial deafness, is a serious bar to popularity, socially. We mean in the company of a number of people.

But at home, the deaf person can be very popular and if she makes the effort can in many ways be so attractive that the deafness is forgotten. Such persons deaf person has a great deal to contend with in the carelessness of those about her. Even in a crowd the sunny disposition overcomes a world of difficulties.

Subscriber, Greenfield, Tenn.—A girl is of legal age at twenty-one in Tennessee, we suppose, but she may marry without her parents' consent at sixteen. Which is a law, by the way, that should be repealed at once.

Orphan Girl, Guthrie, Okla.—Keep your serviette (napkin) in your lap during the meal, except when using it, and when the meal is over lay it by the side of your plate, folded or not, as you please, though at a family meal many fold their napkins. At a formal, or public dinner the napkin is tossed onto the table in most any old way. (2) Girls and their escorts stand and talk at the gate so much that it has become a universal custom, and therefore etiquette. At least, outside of the cities where gates do not exist. P. S. Look up the word "orphan" in the dictionary and see if you spell it that way.

G. H., Chicago, Ill.—Your sentiments are most worthy and we believe you are a square chap and love the girl all right. Find out if she still thinks of you, and if she does, then write to her mother being as frank as you have been with us, and we believe you will be reinstated. Try it anyhow. But you will spoil everything if you want to marry her before she is twenty. You are two years her senior and for you to marry before you are twenty-one is almost a crime.

Inquirer, Mt. Vernon, Ill.—Students at school don't usually stand on ceremonial etiquette in speaking to each other, even in co-ed schools, without being formally introduced. Still certain forms must be observed, and the boys should not be too "fresh", nor the girls too "loud". It may be done politely and that is the way to do it. (2) Certainly they should speak on the street and whenever they meet, but if need not be done elaborately, and if they miss doing it occasionally, no harm will result or hearts be broken. (3) This department doesn't know the author's name. Glad you like the story.

Ethel, Searles, Ala.—You are always running a risk when writing to people you do not know, unless they are known to people whom you know and are practically introduced by them. (2) If you want to take your sister's beau when she is through with him, there is no rule of etiquette to prevent.

Anxious Belle, Oak Grove, W. Va.—Of course, if he tells you to send him word when you want him to take you anywhere it would be proper to do so. The question is personal not etiquette. It wouldn't be proper if he had not told you to. (2) It is not necessary to offer your friend anything to eat or drink when he calls, but it is hospitable, and every man appreciates it and likes to have it. But make it very simple.

Frisky, Sturgeon Bay, Wis.—A housekeeper for the family as you have been since your mother died, it would not be right to desert your post before you are twenty-one to get married. By that time some of the others will be old enough to succeed you. (2) Simple, inexpensive presents may be accepted. (3) It is not proper to speak to a strange man on a car or anywhere else, unless it is absolutely necessary.

Show-me Girl, Agency, Mo.—That he is two years

younger than you are makes no difference if he is all right in other respects. But by no means marry until he is of age. What do you want to take a boy to raise for? It is your prerogative to tell him what kind of a hat is most becoming, and if he resents it, then show him that your taste is better than his and he must improve his appearance because you want him to.

J. W. S., Waterloo, Ia.—It is highly improper to kiss a girl when leaving her at night. Still, it is better to kiss her and leave her than not to, and hang around till she goes to sleep and falls out of her chair. Some men are stayers like that, and others are kissers. But why do you ask "what desire should he express that he wanted to kiss her?" Didn't you kiss her? (2) He should go to see her as often as she wants him to. Gossips will talk about it, but what do you care, if you think she is the only girl in Waterloo?

An Unwilling Bride Or, The Heart's Rebellion

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

reached a convenient spot, where he threw the blanket off her face to give her air.

She had fainted—the terror and excitement had been too great—the reaction was too powerful, and she lay insensible in his arms.

Mrs. Rock and Mrs. Lambert, followed by the household, crowded around them with water, the only restorative at hand.

At length she recovered and looked up, a little bewildered; but soon memory and understanding returned, and gazing at her uncle, she suddenly threw her arms around his neck, and burst into tears.

She was then carried away into one of the laborers' cottages, and laid upon a bed, and attended by her mother and her maid Betty.

The captain, with his wife found shelter in another cottage. And the few remaining members of the household were accommodated in a similar manner elsewhere.

They had scarcely got within doors when the storm, that had been muttering in the distance all the forepart of the night, now burst upon the earth. The rain came down in torrents, like another deluge, and continued with unabated violence until morning.

The sun arose upon a strange, wild scene—a scene of beauty and of desolation. There was the green sward and shrubberies, and the surrounding belt of woods, all verdant and spangled with rain-drops, and sparkling in the fresh light of morning—and there, in the midst, was the ruin, with its blackened walls and chimneys! The fire had been effectually extinguished by the floods of rain, but not until it had completed the work of destruction.

Nothing had been saved but the clothing in which the family stood. Something, doubtless, might have been secured from the flames had there been an organized action, or a leader, with

presence of mind enough left to direct the crowd, who, panic-stricken by the suddenness, and the unprecedented nature of the catastrophe, had remained totally inactive.

The loss, complete as it was in regard to Elmslea, was not, however, very great; the house and the furniture were old, and might be considered to owe no farther service to their proprietor. For years there had been a talk of pulling down and rebuilding and refurbishing. The long deferred and doubtful matter was not precipitated and rendered certain. That was all. After a rude breakfast, the best that could be prepared under the circumstances, a family council was called, and it was decided that they should go to Brighton for the present, until some other course was fixed upon, especially as Elva was very ill, and needed immediate medical attendance.

The stables had not been burned, and the carriage and horses were safe. Bates and Tom were directed to bring them around, while Betty, mounted on a mare, was dispatched to the nearest neighbor to borrow clothing for the burned-out family.

It was near noon before they were all ready to set forth from the scene of disaster, and it was the middle of the afternoon when they found themselves temporarily settled in furnished apartments.

Here Elva suffered a long and severe spell of illness, during which her bright hair was cut off.

And here beautiful Clemence came, with her gift of tender nursing, and devoted herself day and night to the service of the young invalid. And all the leisure time she found while sitting by the sick-bed she busily employed in making up clothing for the almost denuded family. And never had the dear girl's nimble fingers flown so fast or so willingly.

Every day the captain, accompanied by Dr. Dolor, rode over to Elmslea to superintend the labors of the workmen in pulling down and clearing away the ruins of the old mansion, and preparing the site for a new building.

Six weeks passed and brought the first of August, before Elva was able to sit up, and then the physicians recommended change of air for the reestablishment of her health. During her illness Elva had become passionately attached to Clemence, as all persons did who came under the daily influence of the beautiful girl. Dr. Dolor was to accompany the family to Scotland. Elva insisted that Clemence should be asked to make one of the party. Accordingly, the captain and Mrs. Rock nothing loth, invited and pressed her to go with them. But for many reasons Clemence declined the journey—she would not leave Amy, except upon missions of benevolence or necessity; therefore, when her duties as nurse and seamstress were over, Clemence rejoined Amy.

And Captain Rock, with his wife, his niece, and his Dolor, set out for Scotland.

TO BE CONTINUED.

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I Will Give a Full Fifty-Cent Box of Balm of Figs—Free

GIVEN ABSOLUTELY FREE to Prove

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Here is a chance for all women to get well
and strong and enjoy 365 healthy,
happy days in every year.

Every woman reader of this magazine will probably ask herself a question like this: Why does Harriet Richards give a full fifty-cent box of Balm of Figs free to thousands of women that she doesn't know?

I will tell you why.

Harriet Richards will be honest with you.

My mission is to make sick women well, and I want to send you, your daughter, your sister, your mother, or any ailing friend, a full fifty-cent box of Balm of Figs, absolutely free. It is a remedy that cures women's ailments, and I want to tell you all about it, so that if you are suffering from any of the well known symptoms of female weakness, you will know just exactly what to do. I want to tell you just how to cure yourself right at home, without the aid of a Doctor—and the best of it is, it will not in the least interfere with your work or pleasure.

Balm of Figs is just the remedy to make sick women well and weak women strong and I can prove it—let me prove it to you—I will gladly do it and do it free, for I never heard of anything that does so quickly and surely cure women's ailments. No internal dosing is necessary. It is a local treatment—yet it has to its credit some of the most extraordinary cures on record. Therefore I want to place it in the hands of every woman suffering with any form of Leucorrhea, Painful Periods, Ulceration, Inflammation, Displacement or Falling of the Womb, Ovarian or Uterine Tumors, Growths, or any of the weaknesses so common to women, and I will send you

A Full Fifty-Cent Box of Balm of Figs Absolutely Free

I will send it to you free and prepaid because I want to prove its splendid qualities, and then if you wish to continue further, it will cost you only a few cents a week. I do not believe there is another remedy equal to Balm of Figs, and I want you to know that wherever you may be located, I am willing to prove my faith in this remedy by sending you this full fifty-cent box free.

So, my reader, write to me at once—today—all you need to do is to fill out and return the attached coupon and I will send you the treatment entirely free by return mail, and if you so desire undoubtedly I can refer you to someone near you who can personally testify to the great and lasting cures that have resulted from the use of Balm of Figs. But, after all, the very best test of anything is a personal trial of it, and I know a fifty-cent box of Balm of Figs will convince you of its merit. In fact, nothing is so convincing as the actual test of the article itself, and all I want to know is—WILL YOU GIVE BALM OF FIGS THIS TEST? Write to me today and remember, if you will simply fill out the attached coupon and return it to me, I will gladly send you a FIFTY-CENT BOX OF BALM OF FIGS ABSOLUTELY FREE for the asking, or if you prefer to write a letter you can address me in all confidence.

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H. M. R.



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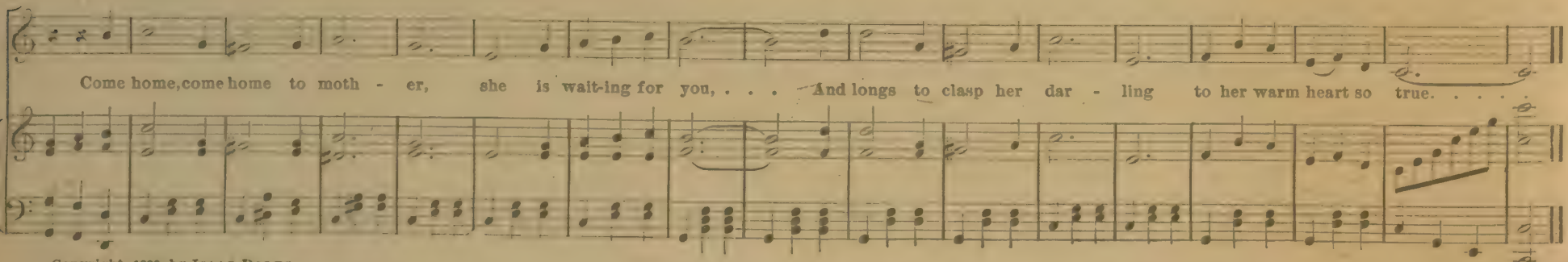
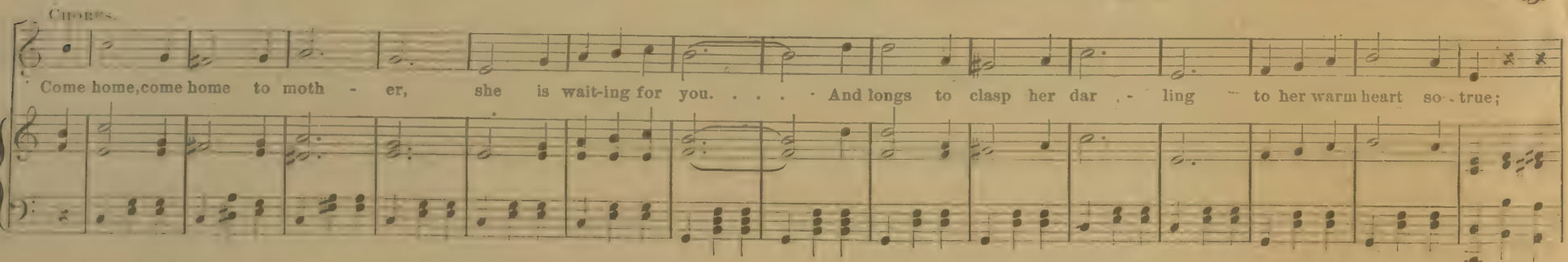
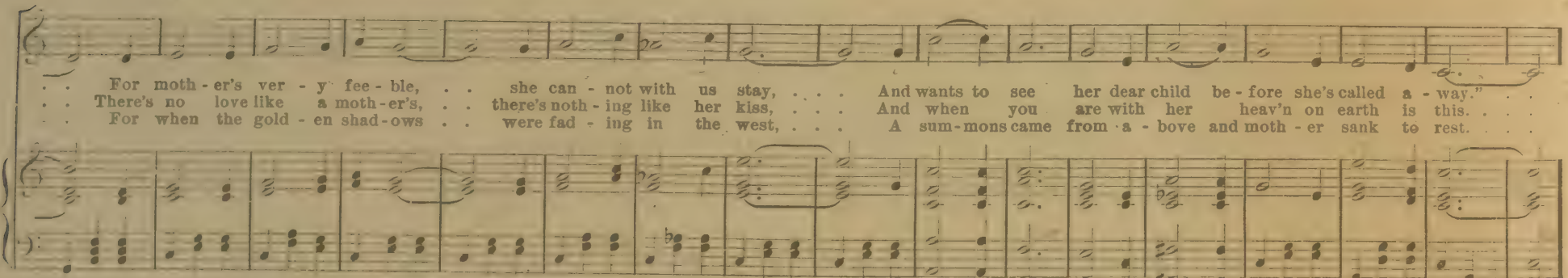
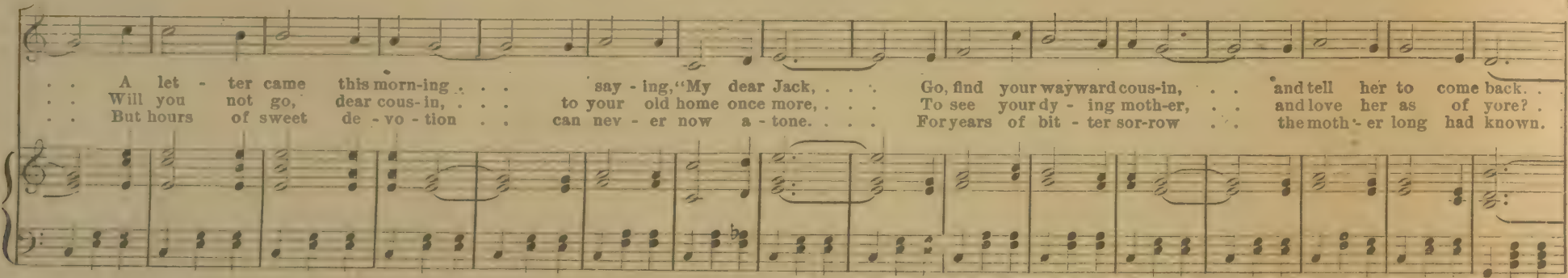
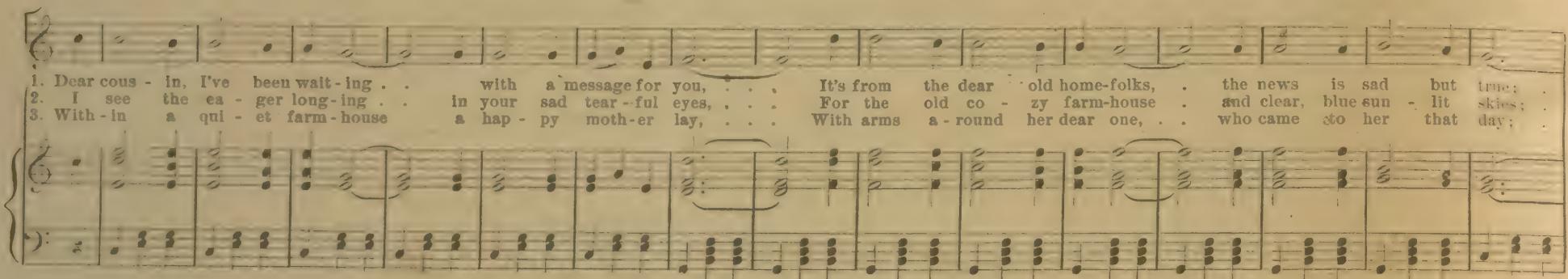
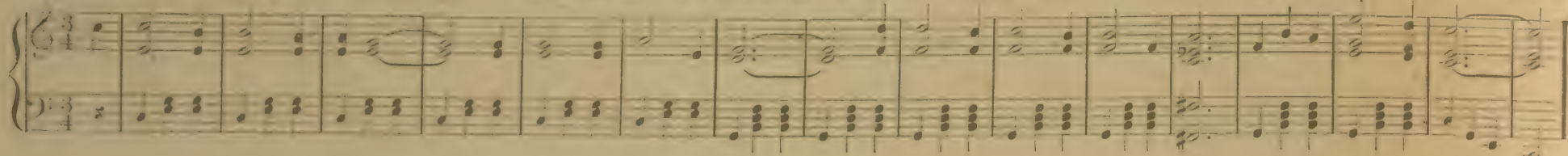
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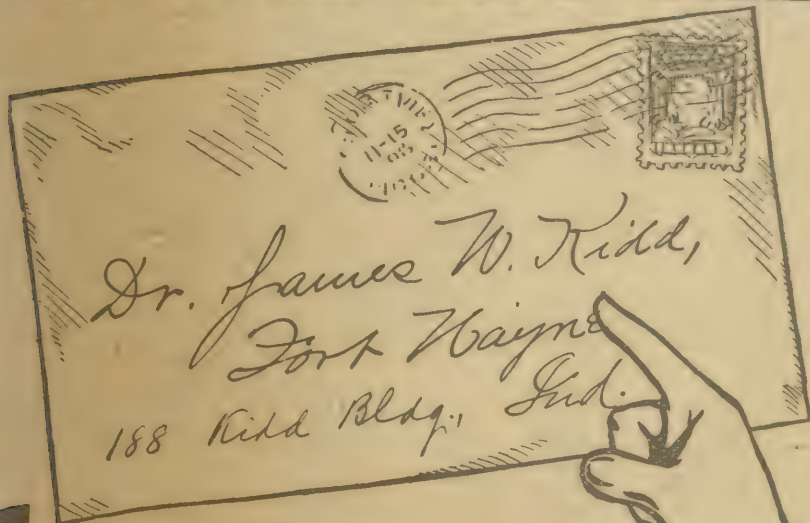
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I have a recipe for these troubles that you can depend on, and if you want to make a quick recovery, you ought to write and get a copy of it. Many a doctor would charge you \$3.50 just for writing this prescription, but I have it and will be glad to send it to you entirely free. Just drop me a line like this: Dr. A. E. Robinson, 300 Luck Building, Detroit, Mich., and I will send it by return mail in a plain envelope. As you will see when you get it, this recipe contains only pure, harmless remedies, but it has great healing and pain-conquering power.

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The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received by COMFORT concerning the health of the family that a column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be referred to physicians, not to us. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions in this column. They will thus save time, labor and postage. Address The Family Doctor, Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

K. A. B. Lyons, N. Y.—You do not state your age. If you are young you will fill out to the correct weight of a man six feet tall, unless you come from thin ancestors. As you do not state your age we can offer no suggestions to increase your weight. We would advise that if your general health is good you should find something else the matter with you to worry about. You can find it easy enough. That is what keeps most people half sick all the time.

C. L. E. Gaston, N. C.—Birthmarks cannot be removed. A skin specialist might make it less noticeable, but unless it is very pronounced we would advise that nothing be done. What do your physicians say?

Featherweight, Walton, Neb.—See answer above to K. A. B. If that does not apply, perhaps you had better consult a physician for tapeworm. A tapeworm will keep a man thin no matter how much he eats.

A. D. S. Stamford, Conn.—The trouble, usually outgrown before childhood has passed, sometimes continues. If it does, as it may in the case you mention, treatment must be administered by a physician who can examine the patient. You have a number of good physicians in your town. Consult one of them.

L. T. Curryville, Ga.—As medicine seems unequal to the task of removing the malarial, the only thing we can suggest is a change of climate. Don't go to Texas, but try the dry, cool air of Colorado. That will take it out of the system if anything on earth will. (2) Teething is always more or less painful and disagreeable. If the ordinary remedies fail, you should consult a physician. The child's general condition has much to do with it.

F. J. K. Doon, Ia.—One part of Colorado is about as good as an cure for asthma and catarrh. The dry air is the cure. Get on a farm somewhere and work in the open.

P. H. S. Arlington, Minn.—There is too much blood in the hands, hence the redness and the tenderness. Get the habit of carrying them up rather than down and this will retard circulation. Such hands as yours are not uncommon and in many cases the tendency is inherited. Have you ever talked to a physician about them?

C. B. M. Albany, N. Y.—To get fat you must eat all sorts of sweets, all kinds of fat food, drink a great deal of water, sleep as much as possible, and take very little exercise. That will make some people fat. There are others who will not take on flesh no matter what they do. Maybe you belong in that class. Cocoa butter is very good for the skin, and it will not increase the growth of hair. Whether it will do what you want it to do can only be known by trying. As a rule it will not add to your weight. Finally you must not worry. Worry will take the flesh off of the fattest. Olive oil will not do much in your case, but it is a fattener as all grease is.

W. F. L. Rockland, Maine.—Stop doing your own doctoring or your children never will be well. You don't know what is the matter with them, and your attempts to cure them only make matters worse. Take them to a physician and have them properly treated. It may cost a little more than home treatment, but you will have healthy children and they will grow into healthy adults, which they will not do under your treatment.

Subscriber, Verga, Minn.—The condition of the nails depends upon the condition of the system in many cases, and in some the trouble is local. The thickening of yours may depend upon a growth from underneath, or the more active production of nail-substance. You will have to see a physician and have his diagnosis and treatment.

B. M. Freeport, N. Y.—Except in severe cases varicocele may be cured or relieved rather, by wearing a light truss, or a wet woman, if you love her, and keep the bowels open and bathe in cold water. Be careful not to over-exert yourself. If you have not seen a physician, you had better do so.

X. Y. Z., Holland, Texas.—The electric needle for removing superfluous hair can only be used by an expert. You don't expect a carpenter to use a jeweler's tools, unless he has learned how, do you? If you tried an electric needle on yourself just what you would look like and feel like after the operation could not be expressed in print, so we shall not try to tell you.

Inquirer, Salem, Ark.—It is pretty much fonder, this thing of people "marrying their opposites." If you are fat, marry a fat woman, if you are thin, you can get her. Thin the same, dark or light, the same. Find a woman who suits your mind, and if your mind suits her, then the rest of it will work out the best results. Even two high-tempered people often marry and get along very well together, though they may not get along so well with their neighbors.

F. G. Mapleton, Ill.—There may be a growth of some kind forming in your throat, is what we should say from what you tell us. You will have to have a physician make an examination. It may be indigestion, but the physician will have to look to make sure.

G. E. C. Parma, Idaho.—But suppose you haven't tapeworm and we should prescribe for what is not there? Don't you think it would be wiser for you to see a doctor and let him tell you whether you have one or not, before you ask us what you shall do to remove it? See answers above to some other thin people.

L. S. Eureka, Cal.—An operation is sometimes necessary when the flesh grows very much over the toenail. Again the growth may be natural. If it causes you no pain or inconvenience, don't bother about it. If it does, let a doctor look at it. Have you a chiropodist in Eureka? He should be able to put you in good shape.

K. O., Keystone, S. Dak.—We think we know what the trouble is, and the physician in the hospital who took your money should have known and told you. If the hospital is conducted by regular and responsible physicians they will tell you that they, nor anyone, can do anything for you. There is a lack of development which can never be made good, unless we are very much mistaken. Only recently a case almost exactly similar to yours has come under our notice, the difference being that this patient was told by the physicians that she could not develop as nature intended. It may be some comfort to you to know that her hospital bill was three times as large as yours.

Farmer's Wife, Brush Prairie, Wash.—Warts are due to aberration of nutritive function of the skin, consequent upon defective organization and vitality. It follows therefore that the vitality of the skin must be increased by improving the circulation of the blood and by cleanliness. Eat simple food easily digested, and take as little fat and sugar as you can. Also stop the coffee, if you drink it. For the wart itself touch it with lunar caustic, which you can get at any drug store. Don't let it get on the skin about the wart. Apply once or twice daily till the wart disappears. Small warts distributed over the skin may be removed by doses of liquor arsenicalis. This must be administered by a physician.

H. B. V. O., Allegheny, Pa.—See answer above to Subscriber, Verga, Minn.

Mrs. M. G. Stevenson, Wash.—It may mean much or it may mean little. We advise that you see a physician about the child.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 32.)

readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT's family, only, but these of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed

advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the child spirit.

Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button with the letters "C. L. O. C." a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and a PRIZE DRAWING, a month's time. If you are already a subscriber to COMFORT, you continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep your good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up.

Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT, Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number; you will also receive COMFORT for one year if you are a new subscriber, but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended two full years beyond date of expiration, without further expense. Be sure to state whether you are a new or an old subscriber.

Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's yearly subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT to your friend for one year. No premium will be given those sending in members for the League.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to include a new subscription or a renewal.

The League numbering over thirty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a year's subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost.

Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise.

All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, N. Y., our grand secretary.

Special Notice

Never write a subscription or renewal order or application for membership in the body of a letter. Write your subscription or renewal and membership application on a separate sheet of paper, separate from your letter. We have to put all subscription orders on our subscription file at once; so if it is written on the same sheet as your letter, the whole letter has to go on to the subscription file at once and thus can receive no attention from Uncle Charlie.

Never send subscriptions to Uncle Charlie nor to the Secretary of the League; they bother him and cause confusion and delay. Address all letters to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, and they will promptly reach the head of the department for which they are intended.

Do the best you can, and God bless you all. Lovingly,

Uncle Charlie

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Dr. J. E. Cannaday, 77 Park Square, Sedalia, Mo.

References: Third National Bank, Sedalia, Mo.

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IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL what COMFORT'S subscription price will be after this month. We may have to double it. All depends on what Congress does with the magazine postage rate. If you renew your subscription two years for 30 cents now, it gives you a sure good thing and we take all the chances.

TOLD AROUND THE STOVE



The Value of Education

"It is quite common among all classes of people, except those who know better," remarked the college professor, "that education is not necessary to success in modern life, at least no more education than may be had from the most ordinary schools. They will cite you instances of this great man or that who had no schooling yet attained success and claim that he would have been no greater had he been educated. I don't know many great men who have succeeded without education, because they are comparatively few, but I never saw one who did not regret keenly that he had been unable to have a fair education in his youth. In 'Who's Who in America,' which is a list of over 16,000 living men and women who have risen to distinction in this country, 85 per cent. received college education, or education in schools more advanced than the common schools. That in itself speaks for education. To go into general population, there were by the last census 41 million people in the United States over 21 years of age. Of these five million were without school training, 33 million with only common school training, two million with common and high school and one million with college and advanced education. Among the 16,000 distinguished people only sixty-two were without school training, 1600 had common school education and over fourteen thousand had high school and college education. Of course everybody can't be distinguished, nor can everybody get college education, but everybody can get common school education and this added to by reading newspapers and books, cheaper now than they ever were, will so broaden the minds and improve the capabilities of every man and woman that they wouldn't know themselves as the one-time ignorant individuals who could be treated like dumb driven cattle by those who knew more than they did. When we know how easy it is to get a good common English education and how little it costs to have newspapers and books, and how much time there is to read even among the hardest workers, who can always find time to loaf a little, it is a shame that there are over five million people in this country, ten years of age or over, who cannot read or write, and nearly a million who can read, but cannot write. These are white people and four fifths of them are American born. Among the colored people nearly three millions cannot read or write, and over three hundred thousand can read, but not write. This sort of a record is not only a shame, but it is a crime, and it is unfortunate for the best interests of the country that the crime is not punishable like other crimes, for ignorance produces crime."

Why Timber Rots

"If there is anything a farmer doesn't like for a permanent thing," said the man who was a government expert, "it is to have timbers, posts and other woodwork going to rot. Most farmers, and there's millions of them, seem to take it as a matter of course, and let it rot. Then they put in more wood and that rots, too, and the farmer pays the bills. But all farmers are not that kind and Uncle Sam is doing the best he can to teach all of them how to take care of their woodwork. To begin with, he has found out that the rot is caused by microscopic little bugs which destroy millions of feet of timber every year, in spite of all that can be done against them. Just now what will kill those measly little bugs and save the wood is occupying the attention of hundreds of scientists, not only in this country, but in every civilized land. If wood could be kept constantly under water it would not rot, because the air can't get in, and the bugs have to have air or they will die. But most of the woodwork is above the water and the study is to kill them in the air. Keeping the wood perfectly dry is also a remedy, for the bugs have to have some moisture. But wood cannot always be kept under water nor always dry, and what is between is where the bug thrives. So far the scientists have found that oil properly applied will keep the wood waterproof, and that creosote and other poisons will kill the bugs and save the wood. It is not a hard lesson for the farmers to learn if they will only interest themselves a little and they can get all the information necessary, if any of them will write a letter to the Office of Wood Preservation, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. But all the information on earth won't amount to shucks if the farmers don't get a move on and use it when they have received it, free."

American Lighthouses

"Lighthouses, I suppose," said a rough appearing chap, "are about as little known as any kind of houses in this country. Still there are a good many of them and ought to be more. We have along our sea and lake coasts 1,700 lighthouses and beacons, and along our rivers 2,000 post lights. In addition we have 122 lightships, 150 electric and gas buoys, 500 fog signals, 100 whistling buoys, 200 bell buoys and 1,000 day beacons. The oldest light is the Boston Light in Boston Harbor, dating from 1716, and the Massachusetts shores lead in numbers, having several times as many as on the entire Pacific coast, where a good many more are needed. But the Tillamook light on the Pacific coast is one of the famous lights and cost \$125,000 to erect. Lightships are expensive, the Cornfield Lightship costing \$10,000 a year to maintain. The pay of lighthouse keepers runs from \$100 to \$1,000 a year, depending on the difficulty of the job. It is a lonesome life and some of the keepers are shut off from the world for weeks at a time. In winter it is particularly hard, and the work very disagreeable as the light must be kept as cold as the outside air in order to prevent the glass clouding. Along the northern coasts this means hardship for the keeper, but that is the way he earns his wages. The keepers' wives are often their best assistants, and when keepers die their wives sometimes succeed them. Ida Lewis is the most famous woman lighthouse keeper. The small salaried men have charge of less important lights, and for the river craft men are employed who have time to do other work. Not many men seek the lighthouse job, but when they get used to it, they seem to like it. But not any for me, I'd rather run a light plow."

Japan and the Cow

"Not a great many years ago," said a party wearing dairy farm clothes, "the 'milk cow' as she is called in the tax lists and census reports, was persona non grata to the Japanese. At least her products were, and a Jap had no more use for milk than a Chinaman has for strong cheese. But the cherry-blossom kingdom is coming to the front fast, and the little brown people are taking their milk as if they had been brought up on it. Twenty-five years ago only one or two up on it. Of natives, eating in restaurants or Europe or America, or with European or American friends, would touch butter, but now fifty per cent. of them eat it with a relish. But

butter is not a popular dish, because it is worth fifty cents a pound, and the thrifty Jap doesn't like the taste of it at such figures. Milk though is cheap and the dairy farms are becoming a prominent industry. Even 'Milk Halls' are common in the cities and the Jap takes his milk as the German does his beer, or will be doing so before much longer. But forty years ago a Jap would sooner drink poison than milk, because he knew what the poison would do with him, and milk was mysterious. However doctors began to recommend it, the people began to like it, and now the cow is held in the highest esteem by all classes."

The Frog Crop

"Frogs?" queried the man with a market basket by his side. "Well, frogs are all right when they are cooked. Maybe you don't see them in your markets around here, but they go elsewhere. St. Paul and Minneapolis lead the frog market and in 1907, five million frogs were slaughtered. That seems like a good many, doesn't it? Wouldn't want to live next door to them unless they were slaughtered, or had their croaks taken out, would you? Ten years ago no frogs were shipped out of Minnesota, but now the business amounts to \$100,000 a year. Other states, especially the Southern, supply a good many frogs but the real thing for the epicure comes from Minnesota. That state has ten thousand nice, fresh, cold lakes, and the frogs need that sort of growing ground, so to speak. Frogs breed very fast and are ready for market in two months and as there are a hundred thousand breeding places in the Minnesota lakes, you can see what the outcome is like. Frogs are good all the year around, and hotels in the big cities have standing orders of from forty to sixty dozen a day. Prices are higher in winter, and an active frog catcher will make from \$4 to \$10 a day at his work."

Costly Rat-killing

"The spread of the bubonic plague in San Francisco," said the traveling doctor, "having been traced directly to rats, the city organized a municipal fight against the rodents and recently 700 men were employed killing them off with an average of about 2,000 a day, and at a cost of over one dollar a rat, the monthly expenses being about \$70,000. It is estimated that the total cost of ridding the city of its plague spreading rodents will be half a million dollars. The rats get their start about the docks and scatter over the city. One method of determining this is to dye a live rat pink or blue or green or any bright color and let him loose. These colored rats have later been caught and killed in remote sections of the city. The battle cry of Frisco now is: 'The rats must go.'"

Transient Parisians

"Paris," said the traveler just back from France, "leads all cities in floating population. In January of last year 128,000 travelers came to town and 130,000 departed. In May, 163,000 came and 161,000 went. In October there were over 200,000 each way. For the whole year the comers and goers amount to 1,750,000 and there are 11,500 hotels and boarding houses to accommodate them. New York city is supposed to have about 125,000 transients a day not counting visitors from near-by places."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 41.)

Gains 30 Pounds in 30 Days

Remarkable Result of the Ne Flesh-Builder Protone, In Many Cases of Run-Down Men and Women.

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"By George, I never saw anything like the effects of that new treatment, Protone, for the building up of weight and lost nerve force. It acted more like a miracle than a medicine," said a well known gentleman yesterday in speaking of the revolution that had taken place in his condition. "I began to think that there was nothing on earth that could make me fat. I tried tonics, digestives, heavy eating, diets, milk, beer, and almost everything else you could think of, but without result. I had been



Any Man or Woman Who Is Thin Can Recover Normal Weight By The Remarkable New Treatment, Protone.

thin for years, and began to think it was natural for me to be that way. Finally I read about the remarkable successes brought about by the use of Protone, so I decided to try it myself. Well, when I look at myself in the mirror now, I think it is somebody else. I have put on just 30 pounds during the last month and never felt stronger or more 'nervy' in my life. It will cost you nothing to prove the remarkable effects of this treatment. The Protone Company will send to anyone who sends name and address, a free 50c package of Protone, with full instructions, to prove that it does the work. They will also send you their book on "Why You Are Thin," free of charge, giving facts which will probably astonish you. Send coupon below today with your name and address.

FREE PROTONE COUPON.

This coupon is good for a free 50c package, (all charges prepaid), of Protone, the remarkable scientific discovery for building up thin people, together with our free book telling why you are thin, if sent with ten cents in silver or stamps to help cover postage and packing, and as evidence of good faith, to
The Protone Co., 2457 Protone Bldg.
Detroit, Mich.

Name _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____

One Million in One Year

We want live young men to become Local Dealers of the best made-to-measure-clothes in America. The Puritan Tailors of Chicago will appoint you that Local Dealer in your town, if you are ambitious to be a part of the selling force.



One Million Suits a Year

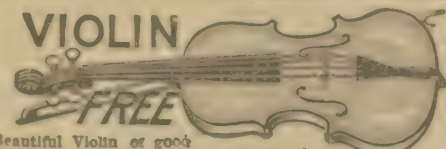
You may never have had the opportunity to show your qualities as a Salesman and make money fast. We will furnish you FREE with a complete line of high grade woolsens, ranging from \$2.50 for trousers and \$7.50 for suits, made to individual measures absolutely and GUARANTEED to fit perfect, with the best workmanship and prompt service. If you are interested in this proposition, write at once and get more particulars how to become one of the BIG men in your community.

A Suit for Yourself

Write us for special inducements for your own clothes. Write at once for our line and wear the finest clothes and represent

THE PURITAN TAILORS

Dept. 172, 250 Market Street, Chicago, Ill.



Beautiful Violin of good size. Full sweet tone. Made of richly polished wood. Finger board and tail piece ebony finish. Fully fitted with 3 gut strings and 1 silver string. Also fine bow of white horse hair and complete Self-Instruction Book. Write for 24 pieces Art Jewelry at 10c each. When sold return our \$2.40 and we send this fine Violin and outfit. Columbia Novelty Co., Dept. 44, East Boston, Mass.

Ring & Bracelet Given
FOR FEW HOURS WORK.
Sell 5 boxes of Smith's Rosebud Salve at 25c. per box, the greatest remedy known for burns, cuts, sores, piles, eczema, scalds, chills, croup, etc. When sold return the \$1.50 and we will promptly forward the adjustable bracelet, bright gold finish, and a gold filled wedding ring, warranted, or your choice from our premium list. Send your order today. NO MONEY. WE TRUST YOU, and be first in your town. Agents wanted. ROSEBUD PERFUME CO., Dept. 2, Woodboro, Md.

\$25.00 a day. New invention; horse owners wild about them; agents are coming money; our premium selling plan guarantees immediate sales; write at once for territory and free sample to workers



Automatic Co., G. 955, Cincinnati, O.

Start In Business For Yourself.

Will start any bright, reliable, industrious man in the portrait business and supply all necessary samples, goods and cash, until returns come in. Write for particulars. Chicago Copy Co., Dept. C, 750 Milwaukee Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

BASE BALL SUIT FREE
No money required. We trust you. Boys! We give well made gray flannel suit, your size, for selling 24-5c. pkgs. garden seeds. Quick sellers. Write today. Other valuable premiums. Met. Seed Co., 155 E. Wackerly Place, S. E. CITY.

FITS
Address, Dr. W. Towns, Fond du Lac, Wis.

Every Woman Glad who sends \$1 stamp for our new Catalogue Rubber Goods, Toilet Necessities, Drugs. Webster Specialty Co., P. O. Chicago.

\$90 Monthly Expenses. To Men and Women to advertise, leave samples and collect names. Write at once. SILVERTON COMPANY, 110 N. CHICAGO.

WE PAY \$90 A MONTH SALARY and all expenses to introduce poultry and stock peddlers. Steady work. GRANT CO. 625, Springfield, Ill.

MARRY Universal Letter Writer FREE to unmarried people on love, courtship, etc. Particulars. H. A. HORTON, Dept. E, Tekonsha, Mich.

LADIES make shields at home. \$10.00 per 100. Work sent prepaid to reliable women. Particulars for stamped envelope. Eureka Co., Dept. 25, Kalamazoo, Mich.

RARE books and specialties not sold in stores. Sample 10c. Catalogue Free. Globe Pub. Co., Box 4, Augusta, Mich.

HOROSCOPE Life read by planets. Birthdate, 10c. coin. Prof. L. Zandi, R. 95, Portland, Me.

GALL STONES or any LIVER DISEASE Write me A.L. about it. Will tell of a cure FREE. Address ED. C. COVEY, R. F. D. 5, Lansing, Mich.

2 Rings FREE for Selling Post Cards Sell only 100 cards of our line, each card 10c. and well as you 2 Solid Gold Laid Rings FREE. Other premiums given. Write for form with the goods. Write today. J. J. JONES BLDG., CHICAGO, ILL.

BED WETTING
Inability to hold urine during the night or day, in old or young, is not a habit but a dangerous disease. Our HAWK EYE Pastilles are guaranteed to cure it. B. H. ROWAN DRUG CO., Dept. 9, London, Ont., Canada. A 25c. Pkge. FREE.

WATCH AND RING FREE
For Selling Post Cards
Send \$1.00 only 20 packages of high grade art Post Cards at 10c. package. When sold send us the \$2.00 and we positively send you this Diamond Watch, beautifully engraved Solid Gold Case, guaranteed 5 years, also a Solid Laid Ring set with a gem that sparkles like a genuine diamond. Our Diamond and Gold Rings are made in the U.S.A. and are guaranteed to last. Send order today. LUCAS SPECIALTY CO., 300 Lucas Bldg. Chicago, Ill.

MEN NO CURE NO PAY In other words you only pay our small profit. MEDICINE SENT ON TRIAL. Not a patent medicine or a cheap imitation. A course of 30 different medicines. Guaranteed to cure. Write today. Send no money. GERMAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE, 841 Grand Ave. Kansas City, Mo.

Mail Me This Free Coupon
with your name and address plainly written

Address.....
You'll receive, prepaid, a \$1 pair of Drafts to try Free, as explained below. Magic Foot Draft Co., Dept. 856, Jackson, Mich.

To every one suffering with RHEUMATISM

I Make This Unlimited Offer



FREDERICK DYER, Corresponding Sec'y.

I'll send you the Drafts the same day I get your coupon—fresh from the laboratory, ready to begin their cure the minute you put them on. They are curing every stage and condition of this cruel disease, whether chronic or acute—muscular, Sciatic, Lumbago or Gout—no matter where located or how severe. They are curing old men and women who have suffered all their lives, as well as all the milder stages. Don't neglect rheumatism, I urge you, for I know the horrible torture and deformity it so often leads to. Send today for the Drafts. I send them on free trial because I know what they are doing for many thousands, and I have faith that they can cure you likewise. Try the Drafts when you get them. Then, if you are fully satisfied with the benefit received, send me One Dollar. If not, they cost you nothing. I take your word. Address Magic Foot Draft Co., 356 Oliver Bldg., Jackson, Michigan. Send no money—just the coupon. Write today—now.



Stomach Troubles Vanish Like Magic

FREE
to Every Man or Woman



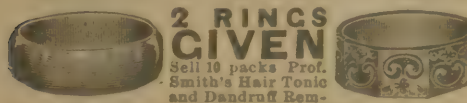
Dr. Young's PEPTOPADS cure where medicines alone fail. They regulate the bowels, relieve soreness, and strengthen the nerves and muscles of the stomach in either sex. You can eat what you want and all you want without fear of distress. The cures effected are marvelous, if you have Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Sour Stomach, Distress after Eating, Nervousness, Dizziness, Heart Fluttering, Sick Headache, etc., send 10c to cover cost of mailing, and I will send you a \$1.00 treatment absolutely free. (It will relieve you immediately. Address DR. C. C. YOUNG, 317 National Bank Building, Jackson, Michigan.)

FITS

RIGHT REMEDY IS FOUND AT LAST.
Let Us Prove It.

\$2.50 WORTH FREE

If you are suffering from Epilepsy or Fits let us send you \$2.50 worth of our wonderful new treatment free as a test. Thousands have used it with remarkable success, and if you have sought in vain for a cure of your affliction, you should give this treatment a trial. Write today for the free test treatment, and let it speak for itself. Address Dr. Peabody Institute of Health, Battle Creek, Mich. 70 Madison Street.



2 RINGS GIVEN
Sell 10 packs Prof. Smith's Hair Tonic and Dandruff Rem.

ed at 10c each WE TRUST YOU. When sold return the \$1 and we'll send these 2 handsome rings, or choice from premium list. A reliable firm, established 14 years. ROSEBUD PERFUME CO., Box 206, WOODSBORO, MD.

MORPHINE

and other drug habits are positively cured by FARMER'S. For complete details or internal Free by mail, in plain wrapper. Regular price \$2.00. DELTA CHEMICAL COMPANY 1108 Holland Building St. Louis, Mo.

22 CAL. RIFLE

Kills at 100 yards. Peep sights, lever action, magazine, 5 barrel, blue black gun. Write for full particulars, or call at our store. When you receive it, we will send you the COLUMBIA NOVELTY CO., Box 391, East Boston, Mass.

FITS CURED

NO CURE NO PAY—In other words you do not pay our small professional fee until cured and satisfied. German American Institute, 664 Grand Ave., Kansas City, Mo.



Comfort's Information Bureau

Under this heading all questions by COMFORT readers on subjects not related to the special departments elsewhere in the paper will be answered, as far as may be. COMFORT readers are advised to read carefully the advertisements in this paper, as they will often find in them what they seek through their questions in this column. They will thus save time, labor and postage. Letters reaching this office after the 10th of the month cannot be answered in the issue of the following month.

J. E. M., Silverton, W. Va.—There is no such paper on our list. Inquire of H. Malkan, No. 42 Broadway, New York City.

E. A. W., N. Springfield, Pa.—Some sort of a trademark, we suppose. Inquire of the manufacturers.

A. W. T., Canute, Okla.—Silver quarter of 1852 is worth twenty-six cents; copper cents later than 1857 worth only face; we had no nickels in 1800.

A. L. P., Karns City, Pa.—Bakers' Journal is published at Cleveland, O.

B. W. L., Pueblo, Col.—If your town book sellers can't tell you—have you inquired?—suppose you try A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, Ill. The better way is to order through your local dealers. Books are sold in Pueblo, aren't they?

C. H. M., Lee, Ore.—We can't guess any closer to it than you can. Chicago has a number of picture makers. Inquire of the other dealers you know, inclosing postage. We think they would tell you.

T. J. T., Fishtrap, Ky.—All wholesale houses employ traveling salesmen. The Cincinnati Enquirer prints free Want notices for situations. Put your ad into that. (2) Postcard firms don't sell goods that way. (3) You will have to learn how to write a letter before you can ever get a job selling goods, that amounts to anything.

U. M., Bloomington, Ind.—Write to the Secretary of John D. We don't know his name. (2) The only way to be sure there is oil on the land is to sink a well. You will have to secure local capital to do that.

A. M. D., Sevierville, Tenn.—Sunday is not the first day of the week except to Christian people, and not to all of them. Legally it is, because the majority of our lawmakers are Christians. Read up on the subject in a cyclopedia. If there isn't one in your town, buy one, even if you have to stint yourself in other matters to pay for it. (2) Physically, that is by nature, Great Britain is calculated to have the strongest navy. Politically that country is where people are willing to be taxed to have it. (3) Christmas is frequently spelled "Xmas" to save writing. Also the "X" stands for the cross.

A. C. R., Milford, Ind.—It is not the size of the city, but the amount of postal business it does, which determines the class of its post-office. However, the larger the city, the more business will be done. South Bend is a first-class office. Milford is third-class, isn't it? (3) There is no certainty of your getting an immediate place after passing a post-office civil service examination. If you passed high and stood at or near the top, you would stand a better chance than if you did not. You'd better read up on the post-office business.

Lynn, Vanderbilt, Mich.—A thorough knowledge of the English language, especially mathematics, correct physical condition and a respectable character are the West Point requirements. Cadets are needed there now and if you have the stuff in you, you should be able to get an appointment. Of course, you understand that it must come through your Member of Congress. Annapolis conditions are about the same as West Point. There is no use trying, however, if you are not fully qualified by study and naturally. Write to your member about it.

C. C., Sylva, Tenn.—You couldn't sell your books for enough to pay the freight. Exchanging at a distance is impracticable.

Inquirer, Chatfield, Minn.—We know of no such school and don't think there is any. Why not write to some of the correspondence schools and get particulars?

W. K. H., Westville, Fla.—Write to Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C. (2) The name of the Post Laureate of Florida has not yet got into circulation this far north. (3) There is no such publication. Popular songs are copyrighted and owned by persons who do not put them into newspaper form. (4) There are dozens of firms all over the country selling typewriters on the installment plan.

C. K., Far, W. Va.—You may learn to read any language from text books, but not to speak it. You must have someone to talk with to educate your tongue and your ear. The easiest language to learn depends upon the person you are of. German is the one you will find that easier than French. So with the others, generally speaking. The one most beneficial depends upon your surroundings or the work you are doing. You should know better than we do what that is. Taking it by and large, every English speaking person of any pretensions at all should know French and German, and most of us do.

H. Tresslin, Box 2, Milford, R. D. 1, Kans., would like to have a good comfortable home in some pleasant farm family in Missouri, Arkansas, or Kansas, where he would pay a fair amount for it in cash, and work about the place just to be working. Maybe some Comfort reader can accommodate him. He would just as soon board with a retired farmer living in a country town.

H. B. S., Rush City, Minn.—The correspondence school, which you drawing, should also have taught you the practical part of it, to wit, what to do with your drawings after they were drawn. That you will now have to learn by submitting your work to publishers of stories, fashions, etc., requiring drawings. Look over all the magazines and send your pictures to such as you think might buy them. There is no other way, unless you have a rich uncle who owns a pictorial publication of some sort. It requires greater ability to sell pictures than it does to draw them. But they didn't teach you that in the correspondence school, did they?

C. S., Brandon, Minn.—The address of the President is Washington, D. C. He is the only one in the town and a letter can't miss him. (2) We have no foreign addresses. (3) The government does not give recommendations to persons in its employ. The fact of an employee resigning a government place to accept a private position is sufficient recommendation.

S. L. B., Atwood, Kans.—The records are kept at the Census Office, Washington, D. C. Write to the Superintendent of the Census.

S. C. W., Clifford, Ill.—You have not been reading this column very closely, or you would know your violin, alleged to be a Stradivarius, was a fraud. There are thousands of them scattered all over this country, most of them hardly worth more than plain lumber.

H. E. A., Query, Ind.—Try a wash of creosote on the timbers that the bees are boring. Put it in the paint if you want to.

Mrs. E. C., Clifton, Tenn.—Such work can only be sold to people in your own neighborhood. Can't you make an arrangement with one of your town merchants to handle it for you?

M. C., Johnstown, Pa.—The people of Latium, Italy, where Rome now is, were the first to speak the Latin language. The earliest records we have of it are not 300 years before Christ. Borrow an encyclopedia from somebody and get the particulars. (2) Nobody on earth can tell you where you can sell original stories to the best advantage. You have got to try them on the various editors who buy fiction. (3) Put an ad in Philadelphia papers if you want to.

F. B. M., Racoon Ford, Va.—To be able to run a department in a magazine like COMFORT calls for special fitness to begin with. Then one must have training as a writer. Add to this a wide knowledge, a special knowledge and most of the knowledge and the department editor is equal to most of the demands upon him or her, with the assistance of

dictionaries, encyclopedias, year books, reference annuals, two or three libraries and a few other odd-ends, including post-office guides, business directories, coin catalogues, maps, gazetteers and so on like those. It looks easy enough when it is all boiled down to column width, but, let us tell you in confidence, that we don't believe anybody at Racoon Ford could do it off hand.

D. A. H., Yaso, N. M.—We don't keep local lists of addresses. Write to the postmasters of those towns, inclosing postage for reply.

W. G., Webster, Pa.—You can get "Kim" from John Wanamaker, Philadelphia. (2) There are no boy detectives outside of dime novels. We won't tell you of any detective agencies where you might learn. If you are a real detective you can find it out for yourself. (3) Yes, the "night riders" are still in Kentucky. But don't you go down there looking for them. If you do you will find them and then you won't be asking COMFORT any more questions.

E. G. G., Independence, Va.—Half dollar of 1853 with no arrows at date or rays on eagle, is worth from twenty to thirty dollars. Quarters of 1854-58 worth only face. Two cent piece of 1855-58, worth face. Copper cent of 1857 worth from ten to fifty cents according to condition.

Bonny Bird, Plush, Ore.—You are about second cousins which is sufficiently removed not to make it very improper for you to join in wedlock. Still, it is wiser to marry outside of the family than in it.

M. D., Jacobs, Mo.—Write to Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago, stating what you want and asking them to suggest what is best. Also ask prices.

O. E., Lima, O.—Half dollars of 1856 worth face only; silver three cent of 1857 and 1872 worth from twenty to forty cents; half dime of 1853, face only.

F. B. F., Library, Pa.—Write to Hon. E. D. Cameron, Comm'r of Education, Guthrie, Okla., for any information along school lines in that progressive state.

J. H. W. M., Stacyville, Ia.—If we ever had the address we lost it. Try E. R. Clark, No. 1265 Broadway, New York City. Maybe he can tell you what you want to know. Inclose postage.

I. H., Oneonta, Ala.—For information about artificial flower making write to H. K. Motley & Co., No. 649 Broadway; Emily C. McGee, No. 437 West 49th St.; A. Nicolett, No. 536 W. Broadway, New York City. (2) Don't understand your question about crayon prints. Don't believe we could give you any information if we did, as the business is not generally advertised.

C. L. S., Howe, Ind.—Your state geologist at Indianapolis is the man to tell you about your iron ore. We suppose there will be no cost for analysis as the state is glad enough to know of its resources.

J. M. W., Pontatoc, Miss.—We simply cannot answer your string of questions. Nobody could. You will have to go to New Orleans, Memphis or St. Louis, and wander around among the shops and the libraries and second-hand book stores and museums and so on and find out for yourself. You'll find out all right if you ask them as many questions as you've asked COMFORT.

W. A. L., Salt Lake City, Utah.—Ask any news-dealer or book store in Salt Lake City to get you a copy of the New York World Almanac for 1910, price twenty-five cents and you'll get all the information along those lines you need for civil-service examination. Or send the quarter yourself to The World, N. Y. City and you'll get it. If you don't want to do this, you'll find the figures in any good geography. Maybe some of the Salt Lake papers get out annual almanacs. If they do, you'll find the figures in them. Gee, you've got a lot to learn on the side before you pass that examination.

495 MENS FINE SUIT AND EXTRA TROUSERS

SAFETY RAZOR FREE Until they we will sell 15,000 SPRING and SUMMER weight, NAVY BLUE WOOL CASSIMERE MEN'S SUITS at \$4.95, and as a premium and adv. we will give FREE with each suit at \$4.95 a pair of fine fancy striped worsted trousers, and if you order within 30 days we will throw in as a special premium with the suit and extra trousers at \$4.95 a high-grade, full size safety razor, guaranteed to shave as perfectly as any \$5.00 safety razor regardless of The Suit is Guaranteed to be a first-class, finest grade navy blue cassimere, a splendid fast color fabric of perfect weave and beautiful changeless finish. It is stylishly made up by expert tailors in latest single-breasted sack style to fit perfectly, is serge lined, elegantly finished, guaranteed better than exclusive clothing stores sell at \$10.00 or no sale. Sizes 33 to 45 inches around breast. The Free Trousers which we give with the suit at \$4.95 are made of beautiful dark, fancy striped worsted, are very stylish, finely tailored and perfect fitting. This is the most astonishing and wonderful clothing offer ever made. We openly challenge any firm to equal it.

THE FREE SAFETY RAZOR we give with each suit and extra trouser outfit at \$4.95 is full size, highly nickel-plated, complete with blade of finest razor steel perfectly ground, honed and stropped, guaranteed to shave as clean, cool and comfortable as any \$5.00 safety razor or YOUR MONEY BACK IMMEDIATELY.

Send \$1.00 deposit, mention No. X39, give chest measure over trousers, length of waist, waist measure over trousers, length of inseam and height and weight, and we will send the fine navy blue cassimere suit and extra pair of elegant, fancy striped worsted trousers and fine safety razor by express subject to examination at the express office, you to pay the balance, \$3.95 and express charges, after you examine the clothes and find them perfectly satisfactory, a perfect fit, the greatest clothing bargain you ever saw, and equal to any suit and extra trousers you ever saw at \$10.00 to \$12.00, and as stylish an outfit as there is in your neighborhood regardless of price; otherwise we will promptly refund your \$1.00. Order the outfit today only for our big close sample book (SEE SURE AND ASK FOR BOOK NO. 27) which contains 100 fine cloth samples of ready made suits at \$3.50 up, trousers 98c up, outing suits \$3.50 up, raincoats \$1.95 up, fancy vests \$1.00 up and complete stocks of Spring and Summer clothing of all kinds. Order the outfit or write for the sample book No. 27 today. Don't miss it. If you need **MEN'S FURNISHING GOODS** SEND FOR OUR FREE CATALOGUE OF MEN'S FURNISHING GOODS and underwear. 21c up, dress shirts 38c up, soft hats 45c up, stiff hats 88c up, silk ties 9c up and every kind of apparel for men and boys at correspondingly low prices. Send for it TODAY. **JOHN M. SMYTH CO., 150-151 West CHICAGO** a Madison Street.

Let Me read your character from your handwriting. Price 10c. I give good readings that please. Thousands find them fine, true, helpful. See for yourself. Money back if dissatisfied. PROF. G. BEAUCHAMP, 2583 8th Ave., NEW YORK.

Don't Stay Fat \$1.00 Box Free



My treatment is prepared scientifically. It does not stop or hinder digestion; on the contrary, it promotes proper digestion and assimilation of food, which 99 fat people in a hundred haven't got and that's why they are fat.

Don't Cry Because You Are Fat. Send to Prof. Kellogg and He Will Reduce You As He Did Me.

Free, positively free, a \$1.00 box of Kellogg's Safe Fat Reducer, to every sufferer from fat, just to prove that it actually reduces you to normal, does it safely, and builds up your health at the same time. I want to send you without a cent of expense on your part this \$1.00 package of what I am free to call a really wonderful fat reducer.

BOYS and GIRLS

EARN ELEGANT WATCH AND CHAIN IN ONE DAY'S WORK

SEND NO MONEY—Simply send your name and address, and we send you, charges paid by us, 15 Beautiful Pictures, 16 inches wide, 20 inches long, no 2 alike, (stores charge \$1.00 each for them). With them we send 12 boxes of our famous WHITE CLOVERINE SALVE (in handsome tin boxes), greatest remedy known for Cuts, Sores, Piles, Eczema, Catarrh, Colds, etc.



MEN and WOMEN

EARN \$3.00 DAILY

You sell the Cloverine at 25c per box and give one picture free. When sold return money and we send beautiful watch and chain, or you can keep cash commission. Be first in your town. Every one buys two to three boxes after you show pictures. A doctor discovered Cloverine. Millions use it. Agents earn \$3.00 a day sure. Write quick. We send Cloverine and pictures at once. Address **WILSON CHEMICAL CO., Tyrone, Pa. Dept. 100**

SISTER: READ MY FREE OFFER. Wise Words to Sufferers From a Woman of Notre Dame, Ind.



I WILL mail, free of charge, this Home Treatment with full instructions, and the history of my own case to any lady suffering from female troubles. You can cure yourself at home without the aid of any physician. It will cost you nothing to give the treatment a trial, and if you decide to continue it will only cost you about twelve cents a week. It will not interfere with your work or occupation. I have nothing to sell. Tell other sufferers of it—that is all I ask. It cures all, young or old.

If you feel a bearing-down sensation, sense of impending evil, pain in the back or bowels, creeping feeling up the spine, a desire to cry frequently, hot flashes, weariness, frequent desire to urinate, or if you have Leucorrhoea (Whites), displacement or Falling of the Womb, Profuse, Scanty or Painful Periods, Tumors or Growths, address **MRS. M. SUMMERS, NOTRE DAME, IND., U. S. A.**, for the FREE TREATMENT AND FULL INFORMATION. Thousands besides myself have cured themselves with it. I need it in plain wrappers.

TO MOTHERS OR DAUGHTERS: I will explain a simple Home Treatment which speedily and effectively cures Leucorrhoea, your daughter's or your own. It will save you money and expense and save your health. The treatment of explaining her troubles to others. Plumpness and health always result from its use.

Wherever you live I can refer you to well known ladies of your own state or county who know and will gladly tell you after this the Home Treatment really cures all diseased conditions of our delicate female organism, thoroughly strengthens relaxed muscles and ligaments which cause displacement and makes women well. Write today, as this offer will not be made again.

Address **Mrs. M. Summers, Box 315, Notre Dame, Ind., U. S. A.**

Ladies Don't Submit!

TO AN OPERATION

UNTIL YOU HAVE TRIED

Magnolia Blossom



Let Us Send You 10 Days Treatment Free

We want to show you free of cost what wonderful results Magnolia Blossom can accomplish. If you suffer from Leucorrhoea, (Whites), Displacement or Falling of the Womb, Ovarian Troubles, Ulceration, Inflammation, Laceration, Tumors, Painful Periods, Bearing Down Pains, Nervousness, Melancholy, Hot Flashes, etc., or any form of Female Trouble, just sit down at once and write for our 10 Days Free Treatment of Magnolia Blossom. We know what it has done for thousands of other women who have suffered just as you do now and we know what it will do for you. All we want is a chance to convince you too. Just have a little faith; send us your name and address today and let us send you the 10 Days Free Treatment as soon as possible, with valuable advice from our Lady Physician. For your health's sake accept our Free Offer. Address,

SOUTH BEND REMEDY CO.,
Box C, South Bend, Indiana

FREE SERVICES AND MEDICINE

A reliable physician of thirty years' experience offers his services and medicine free. Would you like to be cured to stay cured? If so, write him your symptoms and he will send you a course of medicine that will do you good and the prescription, so at any time should you want more of the treatment you can get it from the druggist and the medicine will not cost you over twenty or twenty-five cents a month. This is an offer every afflicted person should avail themselves of. You certainly have nothing to lose and will benefit greatly from this unparalleled offer. Address, J.W. Merrow, M.D., State Sanitarium, 50 Main St., Bennington, Vt.

SOLID GOLD

These two Rings FREE for selling seven 25c boxes "Merit" Blood Tablets in 30 days. One solid gold. Address, MERIT Medicine Co., Room 10 Cincinnati, Ohio.

ALBUM and POST CARDS FREE

To introduce our high-grade gold embossed cards we send a handsome Post Card Album and set of latest cards for only 10 cents to pay mailing expense. L.C. Phinney, 305 Household Bldg., Topeka, Kan.

NEVER EMPTY FOUNTAIN PEN 12¢

You do not have to fill it with ink it is always ready for use. It makes its own ink while you are writing with it, and it will last as long as any fountain pen. Population size. Sent postpaid for 12c or two for 25c, in stamps or silver. C.H. ARMSTRONG, 1222 Washington Street, Dept. 407, CHICAGO, ILL.

25 Beautiful Easter Cards 10c

Fancy Gold or Silver with Colors

THE SPECIAL, daintiest, most charming cards you ever saw. Babies, Eggs, Pretty Children, Flowers, Angels, etc. Every card handsomely colored with beautiful fancy Gold or Silver background—6 pgs. 60c, 13 pgs. \$1.00. C.D. WENDELL, 81 So. Clinton St., CHICAGO.

SIX TOWELS

We have selected as a gift for our agents a set of six huckabuck towels of good size, 16x28, made of high grade material. Such towels as we offer are usually sold at retail in most stores at high prices at a good value. By arranging to use a quantity, thus buying of the makers in whole cases, we can present six for a small number of subscribers.

CLUB OFFER. We will send you at our expense a set of six towels for a club of only 6 yearly subscribers to this magazine at 25 cents each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Told Around the Stove

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39.)

The Farmers and Uncle Sam

"There be some among us," said a man who had come from headquarters, "who have acquired the habit of complaining that the government does less for the farmers than it does for any other industrial class. They are mostly farmers, and if the government has done less it is simply because the farmers haven't asked for it. And what the government stands ready to do for all farmers and has done for many is not in the way of legislation which requires time to effect, but what it has to offer is immediate and direct to the individual. The Department of Agriculture has done more for the farmers of this country than any other one help have had, and it would do more if the farmers would understand that it simply begs them to ask for help. Along all lines of agriculture the department has the most skilled men working out the problems which beset the farmers and what these men have learned they want to communicate to those needing it. Some of our farmers, many, many more than there should be, are too ignorant to know what is ready for them; very many others are too careless to inquire; still others imagine that the services of a Congressman are necessary to get in touch with the department, and the fewest number have taken advantage of the good things offered and are profiting by them. In matters of improving the soil, in knowledge of climatic conditions, in what to plant and how to plant it, in results of new methods and new products, in fruit raising, nut raising, tree culture, in grain of all kinds and grass, in stock and in every variety of farm production, the Department of Agriculture has the very latest and best information free to all inquirers. Even in some details with which the poorest farmer should be posted, the department will furnish information. Not only is it ready, but it urges upon all farmers to apply to it for these free gifts for the betterment of farms and farmers. Every farmer should know that there is no red tape in this department and if he wants to know about any particular thing on his farm he needs only to write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and his letter will be put into the hands of the official in charge of that branch and the information will be supplied promptly. Millions of dollars are spent in acquiring this knowledge for free distribution and it is up to every farmer in this country to wake up and go after it. Farmers are proverbially slow and indifferent, and the time was when they could not have found help in their work if they wanted it, but now that they can, it is the more shame to them that they do not ask for it and put it to the best use when they get it."

In "Bloody Breathitt"

The feuds and killings which have made Breathitt county, Ky., and Jackson, the county-seat a discredit to the state, are not of recent growth. Several years ago a Blue Grass man from Clark county went up to Breathitt, a distance of about seventy miles by rail which goes no further than Breathitt, on a business trip. When he reached Jackson, he found it would be necessary for him to go into the hills for eight or ten miles. A Breathitt friend of his, a prominent citizen and a feudist, owned the best horse in the town and placed it at the disposal of the "foreigner." The horse was a beauty and, of course, was as well known all over the country as its owner. The Blue Grass man was only too glad to accept, for hill horses are not always agreeable riding companions, but another friend suggested that it might not be safe to ride that particular horse through the neighborhood into which he proposed going, as a mistake might be made and Blue Grass would get a bullet intended for Breathitt. The wisdom of the suggestion was so apparent that the Blue Grass man with many thanks and apologies declined to take the horse.

"Aw," protested the prominent citizen, "there ain't a mite of danger. I've rode him all over the county and I ain't never been hurt."

"I know you have," argued the Blue Grass man, "but I may not be so lucky. Anyway, I don't care to take any chances, thank you, just the same."

"You ain't scared, are you?" queried the prominent citizen.

"Well, no, not exactly scared, but a mistake might be made."

The prominent citizen became thoroughly indignant.

"Now look here," he said with a thump of his fist on the counter, "you just ride that hoss of mine anywhere you please and if any d—skinner shoots you offen his back, I'll settle with him in mighty short order! I will, by hokey, and don't you forget it. That's what."

The Blue Grass man had no doubt at all that the prominent citizen would do exactly what he said he would in case a mistake was made, but said he didn't like to ask so much of a friend and he took another horse much to the prominent citizen's disgust.

A POPULAR ARTICLE

Cascarets, the original Candy Cathartic, has become a household word throughout the country, and enjoys the enormous sale of over ten million boxes annually. Cascarets are distinguished from their imitators by the peculiar shape and color of the box, the octagonal tablet, and the letters "C. C." on each tablet. These features, as well as the name, is protected by trade marks, and this is done for the safety of the public as well as to protect the manufacturers from trade pirates. Remember the distinguishing marks of Cascarets here given, for they indicate genuineness, and you need never get fooled into taking a worthless substitute.

LaVeta Free To Women

An ABSOLUTE CURE FOR FEMALE TROUBLES. Write for FREE 10 DAYS TREATMENT. Bonewell Medicine Co., Sta. A, Detroit, Mich.

BAD HABITS

Drinking of beer or liquor. Excessive tobacco & cigar. etc. smoking, or chewing. Drugs, including morphine, laudanum, paregoric, opium, peppermint, cocaine or medicines that you cannot give up using. Also any & all other bad habits, which endanger health. You can be rid of them quickly, gently, easily. Be cheerful, healthy: your life will be prolonged; save money, gain real respect, make friends, and more. No more nervousness. Genuine remedies. Write for FREE information FREE. E. J. WOODS, 534 Sixth Ave., 359 A, New York, N. Y.

PILES CURED

Treatment Mailed Free
No More Danger, Horror, Dread or Expense of Surgeon's Knife

Those who have this dreaded and dangerous disease, with its suffering, torture, excruciating pain, or tantalizing itching, will hail with joy this simple, inexpensive, and harmless remedy, which can be used in the privacy of their own homes and without interference with business or household duties. It makes surgical operations unnecessary, for it quickly reduces swelling and congestion, stops bleeding and itching, heals ulcers, aches and irritated parts. Here is a sample of what Remedy is daily doing:

"After suffering terribly for over fourteen years with piles, I was entirely cured by using one box of your Remedy." J. E. Winters, Janesville, Wis.

A trial treatment will be sent by mail, postpaid, in a plain package, absolutely free to any sufferer who will send name and address. All correspondence confidential. Don't suffer longer. Write to-day. Address, CAPITAL DRUG CO., 17 Hunt Block, Augusta, Maine.

FREE Dollar Bottle Vitaline

YOU PAY NOTHING FOR IT



Dr. Rainey says: "My scientific formula of Vitaline is the sure cure for the diseases and symptoms mentioned below—it's the most certain of all and there is no doubt about this. Vitaline tablets are just the treatment so many are looking



for, what they should have and must have to be made strong, vigorous and healthy. It makes no difference how weak you are nor how long you have had your trouble, Vitaline tablets will easily overcome it—they will not fail nor disappoint you.

NERVOUS WEAKNESS, DEBILITY—L. e. s. s. Vitality, Nervousness, Weakness, Twitching, Jerking, Easily Excited, Wornout Feeling, Weak, Aching Back, Lack of Strength, Energy or Ambition, Bad Dreams, Poor Memory, Rashful, Restless at Night, Despondent.

STOMACH TROUBLES—Pain in Stomach, Loss of Appetite, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Bad Taste or Breath, Sick Headache, Bloating, Heartburn, Sour Belching, Spitting Up, Catarrh, Gas, Grawling, Nervousness.

HEART WEAKNESS—Fluttering, Skipping, Palpitation, Pain in Heart, Side or Shoulder Blade, Short Breath, Weak, Sinking, Cold or Dizzy Spells, Swelling, Rheumatism, Throbbing in Excitement or Exertion.

CATARRH—Hawking, Spitting, Nose Running, Watery or Yellowish Matter or Stopped Up, Sneezing, Dull Headache, Coughing, Deafness, Pains in Kidneys, Bladder, Lungs, Stomach or Bowels may be Catarrh.

BLOOD TROUBLES—General Debility, Paleness, Thin, Weak, Run-down Nervous, Rash, Sores, Ulcers, Pimples, Chilly or Feverish, Loss of Flesh and Strength.

ENCLOSE 10 CENTS IN STAMPS OR COIN, for Postage, Packing, Etc.

Dr. Rainey Medicine Co., Dept. 25, 152 Lake Street, Chicago. I enclose amount for postage and packing. Send at once by mail in plain package, \$1.00 bottle Vitaline Tablets, without cost or obligation to me.

NAME

ADDRESS

8 Elegant Easter or Floral Postals with your name in Velvet raised letters on each, nothing better. Alden Keyes Jr., Omaha, Neb. 10c

35 Beautiful Assorted Post Cards (JUST OFF) Very Swell. MAGNUS A. HESS CO., 233 Randolph St., Chicago. 10c

MONEY

Made quickly by smart men. T. ARYOL CO., 115 Nassau St., N.Y.

POEMS WANTED

For post cards, cash paid. Send stamp for particulars. Poem Post Card House, Mt. St. Lynch, Nebraska.

TAPE-WORM EXPELLED

ALIVE, WITH HEAD STICK. HYSON FIELD & CO., 105 STATE ST., CHICAGO.

FUTURE

I predict love, business, success or trouble. birthdate and 25c. Prof. T. A. Harpel, Evanston, Ill.

MONEY

50 to 1 Shot. "Unik" \$ 3 \$ 3 Secrecy, etc. E. Rogers, Hornschoe, N. C., Box 5.

Sporting Goods

Dice and Cards a Specialty. Catalog Free. Smythe Co., West. Mo.

BED-WETTING

Sure Cure. Give age. Sample free. Boetger Chem. Co., Peoria, Ill.

\$10 Cash Paid

PER 1000 FOR CANCELLED. A. SCOTT, CHICAGO, N. Y.

WE PAY \$36 A WEEK

and EXPENSE. Cash paid weekly. Write for particulars. FEDERAL Bldg. Co., Dept. A, FARMING, ILL.

FITS

I have cured cases of 20 years standing. Trial package free by mail. DR. S. PERKY, Dept. Park Sta., Chicago, Ill.

LADIES SEWING

at home, making Shields. Material furnished reliable women; \$12 hundred; stamped envelope particulars Dept. A 1, Wayne Supply Co., Detroit, Mich.

SOLID GOLD RING FREE

Genuine heavy solid gold shell Ring given for selling 24 pkgs. BLUELINE at 10c. ea. Return \$2.40 when sold and we send this Ring. BLUELINE MFG. CO., 555 Main St., CONCORD JUNCT., MASS.

WE WILL GIVE These 4 Rings

to anyone that will sell 12 pieces of Jewelry at 10c. each and send us the \$1.20. We'll send you, and take back all lost back. Address WEBBON JEWELRY CO., Providence, R.I.

WATCH, RING FREE AND CHAIN

American Movement Watch. Beautifully engraved case, warranted time keeper, also chain and Signet Ring, all given free for selling 20 pieces jewelry at 10c. ea. Write for jewelry. When sold send us the \$2.00 and we send Watch, Ring and Chain. Eagle Watch Co., Dept. 146, East Boston, Mass.

Send for a FREE BOX of OXIE

(One Week's Supply)

Oxien Tablets

The wonderful Health Tonic containing a combination of only pure Vegetable Tonics from Nature's great storehouse of healing.

cent of cost to you. We will also show you how to make \$245.50 by starting on only \$2.50. We have the best money-making agency proposition today. This is ALL FREE if you send at once to

THE GIANT OXIE CO., 50 Willow Street, Augusta, Maine

BED WETTING

Completely cured, all ages. Box Postage, full directions. E. E. E. MISSOURI REMEDY CO., Box 745 K, St. Louis.

A PRIZE FOR YOU

Send name of three ladies who read stories and we will mail you package of 5 very beautiful Gold Finish Flower and Birthday Souvenir Post Cards if you include 4c. stamps. We also send plan for securing 50 more cards free if you answer ad immediately. Household Ladies' Club, Dept. 108, Topeka, Kan.

REMEDY FREE.

Health, Vigor, Happiness.

A trial treatment of a most wonderful remedy for the cure of Nervous Debility, Lost Vitality, Despondency, Kidney and Bladder troubles, or any form of Physical Weakness, etc., is being mailed absolutely free of charge by the celebrated Professor Fowler. This remedy goes straight to the mark and the sufferer does not have to wait a lifetime before feeling and enjoying its curative effects. Indeed, the most amazing results have been produced with these trial packages alone. All the sufferer needs to do to get strong, vigorous and healthy, is to send his name and address to Professor Fowler and the medicine will be immediately forwarded to him in a perfectly plain package with nothing whatever to pay on it. Address: Prof. F. C. FOWLER, New London, Conn.

I Make Men Young Again

This Man is Young at 55 Years

Years count for nothing if you have the vital force. My Health Belt, worn night, pours great quantities of electricity into your blood, nerves and organs. It gives you the vigor of a giant, the fire of youth; you will feel young the balance of your life; it cures weak lame back in one day; your old courage soon returns; you will have as much vital vigor as the biggest, fullest-blooded man you know, and can answer, "FEELING FINE" to any one. Women and men will be attracted to you; your eyes will sparkle with health, and can look without embarrassment into eyes that meet them. In short you will be a complete and perfect man. Cures rheumatism, kidney, liver, stomach disorders.

A MAN'S BOOK C. L. Snell, Middleport, N. Y. ON STRENGTH written—"Your Health Belt made a new man of me after all else failed."

Write for free book, "Health in Nature" sent sealed by mail. It gives much private information and fully describes my Health Belt. DR. C. SANDEN CO., 1151 Broadway, New York.

How Is Your Health?

If you don't feel well, run down, out of sorts and depressed, weak, dizzy, ache in back, side, chest or muscles; if you lack life to enjoy a hearty laugh; have suffered for years with disease; stomach weak, breath offensive, circulation feeble, cold clammy hands or feet; have rheumatism, heart trouble or grippy colds

Wouldn't You Like to Feel Real Good Again?

To have perfect rest, good digestion? Easy mind, good memory for names and places? Have vim and vigor with a knowledge that rich pure blood was supplying the entire system with nature's own health-producing vitality?

We will send, all Free and plainly mailed the necessary OXIE REMEDIES, consisting of one 25 cent Oxien Porous Plaster and samples of the Oxien Pills together with a free Sample Box of Oxien Tablets the WONDERFUL HEALTH TONIC. This is the same treatment that has for past years accomplished almost miracles in thousands of homes and is a royal road to health.

We want you to ask for our Free Oxien Treatment sending name and address to us and we will gladly send you information with booklets, literature, etc., and the full sample Oxien Remedy Treatment without a cent.

Enter Now for March Cash Prizes

COMFORT'S SECOND GRAND PRIZE OFFER

This Receipt Shows the Actual Results

863 CASH PRIZES—ALL SIZES
\$1,300.00 the Limit to Any One Winner

Won All This in a Three Months Try

\$675.00 Galesburg, Ill., May 8, 1909.
 Received of W. H. Gannett, Publisher of COMFORT, the sum of THREE HUNDRED and FIFTY DOLLARS by check of this date in payment of FIFTY DOLLARS FIRST PRIZE for April doubled and TWO HUNDRED and FIFTY DOLLARS Capital Grand Prize in COMFORT'S Great Subscription Prize Contest, which with the THREE HUNDRED and TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS previously paid me in monthly Cash Prizes makes a grand total of SIX HUNDRED and SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS received by me from COMFORT in cash prizes during the past six months, besides all my regularly earned premiums and cash commissions.
 E. WAGONER.

Of Patiently Pegging Away During Spare Time.
 He won the first prize only three months and we paid him \$675.00. That happened to Mr. Wagoner under our last year's prize offer which was the same as our present one is. He found it such a big, fat, easy mark that of course he is in it again this year,—as YOU OUGHT TO BE,—for they are

Winning Bigger Prizes This Year

We have paid the November, December and January prizes,—many of them doubled or tripled. The 159 January prizes which we paid ranged from \$1.00 to \$150.00 each. We are about to pay big February prizes. But the

Biggest Prizes Are Yet to Be Won in March and April

The opportunity is still open to you to win as much as \$400.00 between this and the first day of May even if you have not entered yet.

Two Prizes and Big Money for a One Month Try

Seven of our Grand Prize Winners did the stunt of winning a monthly prize and a Grand Prize, too, all in one month, just by entering for one single month, and then dropping out; didn't even make a try in any other month. Three did the trick the first month and then dropped out; one the third month; one the fourth month, and two did not enter until the last month.

Perhaps you wonder how this could be done,—how a Grand Prize for a six-month contest could be won in a single month. The solution is very simple, and is one of the most liberal and attractive features of our prize offer by which

You May Enter or Drop Out at Any Time Without Forfeiting Your Right to a Grand Prize

The Grand Prizes are paid on May 8 to the winners in the six-month Grand Prize Contest, but, don't you see, as all subscriptions sent in count both ways, both on the monthly prize contest for

This is our SECOND GRAND Combination PRIZE OFFER, and we make it the same as our GRAND JUBILEE PRIZE OFFER of last year, because that was such a great all-round success,—but this time WE OFFER MORE PRIZES.

We paid \$675.00 to MR. E. WAGONER, of Galesburg, Ill., and \$350.00 to MISS ALICE WINTERS, of Grover Hill, Ohio, and large sums to MANY OTHER PRIZE-WINNERS, and HUNDREDS of SMALLER PRIZES of ONE to FIVE DOLLARS EACH easily won with little effort, all in accordance with our last year's PRIZE OFFER which proved to be

THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

to them; and we now offer you an equal opportunity to WIN AS MUCH OR MORE.
 THIS IS THE GREATEST COMBINATION PRIZE OFFER ever made, because these 863 CASH PRIZES are divided into six groups of monthly prizes, \$1.00 to \$300.00, 34 GRAND PRIZES, \$5.00 to \$250.00, and 525 consolation PRIZES of \$1.00 EACH for WOMEN and CHILDREN; so that one might win any ONE CASH PRIZE, or ANY NUMBER or combination of CASH PRIZES not exceeding seven and not MORE THAN \$1,300.00 in all to any one person, and in addition an unlimited number and value of club premiums. WE PAY BIG CASH PRIZES MONTHLY, so that you don't have to pull through a long contest to win, and you don't have to wait to get the premiums that you earn and the money that you win.

WE HAVE PAID THE JANUARY PRIZES

On the eighth day of February we paid the January cash prizes, and we print the names of the winners on another page of this paper.

The February prize competition closes February 28, and we shall pay the February prizes on the 8th day of March. You will see the names of the winners in April COMFORT.

109 PRIZES FOR MARCH

FOR EACH AND EVERY MONTH of the six months beginning with NOVEMBER, 1909, and ENDING with APRIL, 1910, there is a SEPARATE and DISTINCT PRIZE competition for a separate and distinct list of MONTHLY CASH PRIZES to be paid at the end of each month.

THESE 863 SPECIAL, EXTRA, CASH PRIZES are paid, in addition to club premiums, to those who send us subscriptions to COMFORT. Prizes come thick and fast every month for six months. The competition for March, the fifth month, begins on the first day.

ENTER NOW FOR MARCH MONTHLY PRIZES

1st Prize \$50.00 to \$250.00 3rd Prize \$10.00 to \$30.00
 2nd Prize 25.00 to 75.00 4th Prize 5.00 to 15.00
 30 Prizes \$1.00 to \$3.00 Each

The first prize goes to the one who sends in the largest number of subscriptions in the month of February, the second prize is for the next largest number, and so on.

75 CONSOLATION PRIZES of \$1.00 each WILL BE PAID, 50 to WOMEN and 25 to CHILDREN UNDER 15 years of age, who ENTER THIS MARCH COMPETITION and FAIL TO WIN a monthly prize.

March prize competition opens on the first day of March and closes at midnight of the last day of the same month, and the March prizes will be paid on the 8th day of April.

LOTS OF PRIZES PAID EVERY MONTH

There will be a separate subscription prize competition in each of the months of March and April, and each of these months we shall award and pay 34 monthly cash prizes to the 34 persons who, during the particular months for which the prizes are awarded, send us the largest numbers of yearly subscriptions.

The monthly prizes for March and April are the same, except that the first prize is \$50.00 to \$250.00 for March, and \$50.00 to \$300.00 for April, as explained further on.
 Each monthly contest (after November) opens on the first day of the month and ends at midnight of the last day of the same month. Subscriptions mailed on the last day of a month will be counted in on the contest for that month, provided the postmark on the envelope shows it. This gives an equal opportunity to everybody no matter how far off they live. The prizes for each month will be paid on the 8th day of the month following, which is as early as we can count up and find out who the winners are.

GRAND PRIZES

To those who send us the largest number of yearly subscriptions between October 1, 1909, and midnight of April 30, 1910, we will pay the following grand prizes:

Capital Grand Prize, \$250.00 4th Grand Prize, \$40.00
 2nd Grand Prize, 125.00 5th Grand Prize, 20.00
 3rd Grand Prize, 65.00 6th Grand Prize, 10.00
 28 Grand Prizes of \$5.00 each, \$140.00

The Capital grand Prize goes to the one who sends in the largest number of subscriptions between October 1, 1909, and the last day of next April, and the second grand prize is for the next largest number, and so on. These Grand Prizes come on top of the monthly cash prizes and regular club premiums, and therefore they are

Combination Cumulative Prizes

When you enter for the monthly prizes we also enter you for the Grand Prize Contest, and all the subscriptions which you send in any month count in the monthly prize contest of that month and also in the Grand Prize Contest. You can enter at any time in any of the six months and can drop out at any time, and we will pay you whatever monthly prizes you win while you are in, and will send you your regular club premiums, too, as fast as you send in the clubs. You may win a monthly prize one month, two months, or every month, and may win a Grand Prize on top of them. As all the subscriptions in this contest count toward both sets of prizes, the Grand Prizes are sure to go to winners of monthly prizes.

Monthly Prizes Double Up to Persistent Winners and Give Astonishing Results

Nobody ever heard of such a thing until it was invented by us especially for our Great Jubilee Anniversary Prize Offer which created such a sensation a year ago; so we give you the benefit of it again in this present prize offer. It is a very simple process, but it produces surprisingly large results by doubling up prizes for those who win month after month. This is it. If you win a prize any month it will be paid you immediately, and you will receive your regular club premiums, too, as fast as the clubs come in. But that is not all. If you win a monthly prize the next month, that is for two months in succession, we will immediately pay you double the amount of your second month's prize. You need not win the same prize both months; any prize one month and any prize from \$1.00 to \$50.00 the next month will do the doubling act on the second month's prize. We also double for you whatever monthly prize you win the third successive month; and likewise the fourth, fifth and sixth months if you continue to win. Understand, that if you win one monthly prize, all monthly prizes won by you in consecutive months thereafter will be doubled for you.

If you entered the February prize competition, don't fail to keep right on trying your level best through March, so to win a prize both months, because if you do win both months, as some always have we pay you double your March monthly prize.

Of course the doubling and tripling does not apply to the consolation prizes which are distributed by us among women and children who don't win.

MONTHLY PRIZES THRIBBLE

If you win the same monthly prize three consecutive months, we will double your second month's prize and pay you three times the amount of your third month's prize. See how this works. Suppose you win the third prize, \$10.00, for three consecutive months, or as some say, three straight months,—what we mean is three months running. In that case we pay you \$10.00 for the first, \$20.00 for the second and \$30.00 for the third month, making \$60.00 in all for the three months. And likewise with the fourth, fifth and sixth months, if you continue to win the same monthly prize. This explains why there are two sums stated for each prize for March, as above; the first sum each time being the regular prize for that month and the second sum being three times as much means that the regular prize is likely to be doubled or tripled by the progressive process as just stated.

Understand, that on the third consecutive month that you win the same monthly prize, and on all successive months thereafter that you win the same monthly prize, we pay you three times the monthly prize which you win. This rule applies to each and every one of the 34 monthly prizes, ranging from \$1.00 to \$50.00 each month. Even a \$1.00 monthly prize becomes \$3.00 the second and \$9.00 the third successive month that you win it, making \$6.00 for the three months, and keeps on at \$3.00 a month for the remaining three months if you continue to win it. There are 130 \$1.00 prizes at least a \$1.00 prize each month, and if you do win only a \$1.00 prize each month, it will double and triple up to \$15.00 for the six months, and you would be almost certain to win a grand prize of at least \$5.00 more on top of that.

IN CASE OF A TIE, the prize or prizes for which contestants are tied will be divided equally between them. Thus, if two are tied for first prize, we shall add first and second prizes together and give half of the total to each, and doubling the share of either contestant entitled to double.

EVERYTHING TO WIN AND NOTHING TO LOSE. It costs you nothing to enter. It is the chance of a lifetime,—a lot of great chances combined. Don't let them slip past you. Enter now with a club of two or more and get in line for the prizes. Your own subscription or renewal will count one. You can renew 2 years for 30 cents, or if you have recently renewed or subscribed, you can extend your subscription for 30c. more and have it count one. Use the Prize Contest Entry Coupon on opposite page to enter this contest, or if you do not wish to mutilate this paper by cutting it out, copy it on to a sheet of paper. Get your friends to subscribe, renew or extend their subscriptions and help you to win a prize.

\$350.00 Grover Hill, Ohio, May 8, 1909.
 Received of W. H. Gannett, Publisher of COMFORT, the sum of ONE HUNDRED and TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS by check of this date in payment of SECOND GRAND PRIZE in COMFORT'S Great Subscription Prize Contest, which, with the TWO HUNDRED and TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS previously paid me in monthly Cash Prizes, makes a grand total of THREE HUNDRED and FIFTY DOLLARS received by me from COMFORT in cash prizes for three-months subscription canvassing, besides all my regularly earned premiums and cash commissions.
 ALICE WINTERS.

\$25.00 and Twice \$50.00 Make \$350.00 in Three Months

for ALICE WINTERS of Grover Hill, Ohio, as proved by her final receipt reproduced above. SHE DID NOT ENTER UNTIL DECEMBER and dropped out at the end of February, but she won a \$25.00 PRIZE and two \$50.00 PRIZES doubled, making \$225.00 in three months prizes, and these brought her also the second Grand Prize of \$125.00 more at the finish on May 8.

Of course Miss Winters' short-time, big winnings were under our last year's prize offer, which is the same as the present one. There are still two months left of our present Grand Prize Competition.

There is yet time and opportunity for one who enters in March to even better Miss Winters' splendid results by winning \$400.00 between this and the first day of May.

Jump into the game now and win big money quick.

Began With a \$1.00 Prize & Worked His Winnings Up to \$139.00

The experience of Mr. C. F. Clark, of LeRoy, N. Y., shows how one creeps up from a small beginning in this prize competition. In November he won only a \$1.00 prize; in December he didn't try; in January he entered again and won a \$1.00 prize again; in February he won a \$1.00 prize again, and it being his second month we doubled it and paid him \$2.00; in March he won the third prize of \$10.00 and we doubled it paying him \$20.00; in April he won the second prize of \$25.00 and we paid him \$50.00, and the combined subscriptions which he sent in won him also the third Grand Prize of \$65.00, making \$139.00 in all that we paid him in cash besides all his premiums.

If you were in for February, stay in for March prizes sure, because it is getting near the end.

Big Prizes Paid Last Month

E. WAGONER - 1st Prize, \$150.00 won January
 ADA HUMPHREY - 2nd Prize, \$75.00 won January

Look at the receipts for these two prizes and then just think how you might have had your name on one or other of them by hustling.

Big Prizes Yet to Be Won

Don't let them all get by you. Make a hustle in March and April and make up for lost time.

Remember that these cash prizes also carried with them a whole host of valuable premiums which more than paid the winners for their time besides the cash prizes.

\$150.00 Galesburg, Ill., Feb'y 8, 1910

Received of W. H. Gannett, Publisher of COMFORT,

One Hundred and Fifty Dollars

by check of this date in full payment of JANUARY FIRST PRIZE THRIBBLED.

E. WAGONER.

\$75.00 Woodbury, Ky., Feb'y 8, 1910

Received of W. H. Gannett, Publisher of COMFORT,

Seventy-five Dollars

by check of this date in full payment of JANUARY SECOND PRIZE THRIBBLED.

ADA HUMPHREY.

the month and also for the six-month Grand Prize contest, any one may send in enough in any one month to win a Grand Prize as well as a prize for that particular month. That is just what those seven that we have explained about did. The three who won a monthly prize and a Grand Prize too, the very first month and then dropped out, were paid their monthly prizes immediately, but of course they did not get their Grand Prizes until May 8, because we could not tell until then whether they had won a Grand Prize or not.

Others won monthly prizes doubled and Grand Prizes in two months, three months, four and five months.

The beauty of our combination prize offer is that you can do good work and get big results quick, if for any reason you don't want to make a long pull of it.

But of course the longer you stick to it winning month after month and doubling and tripling your prizes the bigger it pays. Even the small prizes pay well as they double and triple, and you would be surprised to know how easily some of them were won: some of the winners wrote us so themselves,—said they were surprised too, and did not expect to win.

Twice \$10.00 Makes \$70.00 in Two Months

for MR. C. B. MORRIS of Hebron, West Virginia, a little village of 129 inhabitants, according to the last census. He won the third prize of \$10.00 in November and the same again in December and then dropped out. These two monthly prizes, with the second one doubled, made \$30.00, which added to the fourth Grand Prize of \$40.00, which his two-months effort also won him, gave him a total of \$70.00 on two \$10.00 monthly prizes. To him they were welcome surprises. There were lots more of them if we only had room to tell you.

CONDITIONS. The conditions of this contest are few and simple.
 First. Send subscription clubs, large or small, often as you like. Name regular club premium you want.
 Second. In mailing subscriptions intended for the prize competition, be sure to address them all to COMFORT Prize Department, Augusta, Maine or we shall not know they are for the prize contest.
 Third. Subscriptions mailed on last day of a month will be counted into that month's contest provided postmark on the envelope shows it. This makes it fair for all, no matter how far off they live.
 Fourth. The prizes will be awarded on the basis of one-year subscriptions, but other subscriptions will be accepted and counted in these prize contests as follows: 3 five-months subscriptions equal one yearly subscription. One two-years renewal equals one yearly subscription. So send in either kind of COMFORT subscriptions or renewals and they will all count.

Small Prizes Easily Won Roll Up Goodly Sums

Miss Lula E. Blackman found that small prizes easily won count up. She won a \$5.00 and four \$1.00 monthly prizes; that was all; but by our doubling and grand prize combinations it brought her a total of \$29.00, which we paid her in cash besides her premiums.

Nineteen of our Grand Prizes last year went to winners of one dollar monthly prizes.

Five of them won a \$1.00 prize one month only, and that won them a \$5.00 Grand Prize, too,—\$6.00 for winning \$1.00.

Fourteen Grand Prize winners doubled or tripled their \$1.00 monthly prizes with their Grand Prize Combination, and one, who never won a prize bigger than \$1.00 got \$20.00 out of the double-thrill combination.

The small prizes are well worth chasing. Some of them are sure to bring Grand Prizes, too.

Don't fail to enter for a March prize.

\$1.00 and \$10.00 Make \$26.00

for MRS. ROLLIE FORSHA of Blairville, Pa. She won a \$1.00 PRIZE in December and the \$10.00 PRIZE in January and then dropped out for good. You don't have to WIN THE SAME PRIZE TO DOUBLE. Any monthly prize doubles the next month's prize. So we paid her \$1.00 on January 8, and \$20.00 on February 8, double her January prize, making \$21.00, and she thought she was done and out, but on May 8, we sent her \$5.00 more as a GRAND PRIZE, making \$26.00 for winning a \$1.00 and a \$10.00 monthly prize.

These which we have described are only a few instances of many profitable results to our hundreds of prize-winners in our last year's and this year's Grand Prize Competition which are here stated just as examples of what has been done. We have paid as fast as they were won each month. Two months of this prize competition yet to come. Two sets of monthly prizes yet to be won. Two months yet, which is ample time to win the best Grand Prizes, too.

Read in another part of this paper the list of January Prize Winners.

Enter now for March prizes and go in to win.

ENTER NOW; Win a March Prize, Perhaps Double or Thribble. Read directions with coupon on opposite page



Drink Did It!

Drunkards Saved Secretly

Any Lady May Do It At Home—Costs
Nothing To Try.

At last, drunk no more, no more! A treatment that is tasteless and odorless, safe, absolutely so; heartily endorsed by temperance workers; can be given secretly by any lady in tea, coffee or food; effective in its silent work;—the craving for liquor relieved in thousands of cases without the drinkers' knowledge, and against his will. Will you try such a remedy if you can prove its effect, free to you? Then send the coupon below for a free trial package, today.

FREE TRIAL COUPON.

Write your name and address on blank lines below and mail coupon today for free trial package of Golden Remedy.
Dr. J. W. Brown, Co., 5127 Glen St., Cincinnati, O.
I am certainly willing to use the free trial package of your Golden Remedy which you say can be given secretly and easily at home. It must be indeed a "Golden Remedy." Send to me quickly.

Name.....
Address.....
.....

**BED-WETTING
CURED**
A harmless home treatment.
It is a DISGRACE not a habit.
Shipping only does harm. Don't neglect it,
write today. Cure guaranteed. **FREE**
DR. MAY CO. Box X 67, Bloomington, Ill.

His Invitation

BY WYNTOUN.

ONE of the best known story writers of our day, whose works are read in thousands of households all over our land, was a few years ago resting at a Sanitarium near Chicago. Having once been an editor of a prominent paper in the South, aside from the fact that he was a "lion" in literary circles, he was in demand at all gatherings of the Newspaper fraternities.

The ostensible object of his stay at the sanitarium was rest, but in reality his wife had persuaded him to take a course of water cure in hopes that the taste for stronger drink might disappear or at least be diminished.

All went well for a while, but before long a desire came upon our author to have a night with the "boys". How to manage it he at first did not know, but at last a happy thought struck him and full of the ruse which he would play upon his wife in order to avert suspicion, he went home to his rooms in a jubilant mood. On reaching there he greeted his wife with "Mother, some of the greatest editors of Chicago are going to give a banquet in my honor this evening, and I want you to get out my best so that I can appear as I should. I shall be called upon to answer to a toast of 'The Sunny South' and I want to do my best. So you must excuse me if I do not get home until late."

The good wife smiled and said: "I am glad, my dear, that you are thus honored and I know that you will do nothing but what will bring credit to each of us. But please promise me you will not drink a drop tonight."

Without exactly committing himself, he put on his best and went to the city. He immediately hunted out some of the "boys," who happened in this case to be reporters and jolly good fellows at that, and started out for the night. Well, the night passed as most other nights of that kind do and our author got home at 3 a. m.

He was thankful that nothing was said that night and went to sleep thinking how he would explain things in the morning. As in such cases, morning came too soon, and when he got up he saw his wife ready for breakfast.

"Well, my dear, how did you enjoy your banquet?"

"Fine, fine," was all the answer he made.

"But," she continued, "I see you did not keep your promise, for you have been drinking?"

"Yes, mother, I did take a drink or so with the boys. But when one receives such a flattering invitation as I did, one does not like to refuse to join in one or two toasts."

"But, my dear, you have not yet shown me your invitation."

By this time, our author was getting nervous, but he reached down in his pocket and pulled out an envelope and handed it to his wife, saying, "There it is; maybe you think I did not have any."

She looked at it, turned it over, looked at it again and then, smiling sweetly, said, "My dear, how did you know where to go and who gave this banquet?"

Our author began to be irritated, and answered testily, "Mother, can't you see for yourself? You have the invitation in your hand."

"Yes, my dear," still more sweetly, "but this has never been opened and I do not see how you knew where to go or who gave it."

Our author collapsed, for the wit of his wife had been his undoing. He had written the invitation himself, addressed it to himself, but had forgotten to open it.

It is needless to say that he attended no more "banquets" for a long time.

THIS AIR RIFLE FREE

for selling 24 10c. packages Blaine.
Ride first class every way. When
sold return our \$2.40 and we send rifle.
Blaine Mfg. Co., 256 Mt. St., Concord Junction, Mass.

FAT is Dangerous

It is Unsightly, Uncomfortable, Spoils the Figure, Causing
Wrinkles, Flabbiness and Loss of Vigor.

Let me send you my Proof Treatment absolutely Free;
you can safely reduce your fat a pound a day.



Note what my treatment has done for others; it can do the same for you.

Lost 115 Pounds. Mrs. E. M. Reynolds Lehigh, Iowa, writes: "When I began your treatment I weighed 285 lbs. I now weigh 170 lbs., and never felt better in my life. My bust measure is reduced from 54 in. to 38 in.; waist from 42 in. to 28 inches."

Permanent. M. E. King, 5634 Spaulding Ave., Chicago, writes: "By the Dr. Bradford Method, I reduced 85 lbs., 8 years ago haven't gained an ounce since. Rheumatism also cured."

Lost 112 Pounds. W. C. Newburn, Contact, Nev., writes: "I have lost 112 lbs., am wonderfully benefited in heart and general vigor. Can climb mountains easily now."

Lost 98 Pounds. Mrs. J. H. Woodbridge, Galena, Mo., writes: "My figure and appearance have been wonderfully improved, have lost 98 lbs. Friends amazed."

Many other testimonials from well known persons will be mailed with FREE PROOF TREATMENT.

I could fill every page of this journal with testimonials from grateful patients.

It is dangerous, unsightly, uncomfortable, and embarrassing to be too fat. Excess fat weakens the heart, the liver, lungs, stomach and kidneys become diseased.

NOTE.—Dr. Bradford is a diplomate, practicing physician, licensed and registered by the State of New York; famous many years as a specialist in reducing fat and improving health by scientific, gentle, home treatment.

AN OPTION on a complete 50 card set of beautifully colored Passion Play post cards goes with that envelope folder renewal blank which we send this month only to those whose subscriptions are about expiring. Those who receive it may renew two years for 30 cents, or by sending 50 cents get a two-year renewal and receive the full set of 50 superb Passion Play cards. Read account of Passion Play on page 34.

Six Superb Rose Plants

Of Radiant Beauty, Color and Odor

WONDERFUL OFFER TO LOVERS OF FLOWERS

One of the oldest and largest Rose Growers in the world has repeated the arrangement to supply us with an unlimited quantity of STRONG, Vigorous Plants, ON THEIR OWN ROOTS, each assortment of SIX CAREFULLY PACKED TO BE MAILED AT OUR EXPENSE. FULLY GUARANTEED TRUE TO NAME and description below, and SUPERIOR IN EVERY WAY to ordinary hothouse-grown plants. Read carefully the complete descriptions of each of the SIX ROSES IN THIS COLLECTION. Did you ever hear of anything SO GOOD and SO GENEROUS AS THIS OFFER. Hardy Roses ready to be transplanted in YOUR OWN GARDEN, there to thrive, GROW and BLOSSOM all in their radiant BEAUTY and SCENT.

ETOILE DE FRANCE

Rich Velvety Crimson

This beautiful rose was recently introduced by a celebrated French rosarian, capturing numerous medals and prizes, well deserving them all. It is fine for either bedding or massing purposes, of a strong, vigorous growth, with handsome bronzy-green foliage, making an exquisite setting for the large double flowers of a clear, rich velvety crimson. The buds are of elegant formation, most delightfully fragrant, borne on long, stiff stems in the greatest abundance.

Mlle. FRANCISKA KRUGER

Dark Rich Yellow

A peerless rose in every respect. It is distinct in habit of growth, thriving under very adverse conditions, and is fine for either single or massing planting. The flowers when in full bloom are of immense size and perfectly double, unequalled in beauty by any other rose of its color. It is one of the most liberal producers of exquisitely pointed buds, which are borne on long, stiff stems and open to handsomely formed flowers of a deep rich coppery yellow.

CRIMSON RAMBLER

The most beautiful crimson climbing rose ever cultivated and a strong, rapid grower, quickly throwing up canes of great length and sturdiness, which are covered with beautiful, peculiar shining foliage. The flowers are produced in immense clusters, of from thirty to fifty blossoms in each cluster, the color of which is a lovely bright crimson. This rose is valuable for decorative hedges, arches and screens for porches or unsightly places around the home.

MAMAN COCHET

Clear Rich Pink

A rose to excite the envy of anyone. For outdoor planting this rose stands first as a strong vigorous grower, rapidly producing a large shapely bush, densely covered with deep, green foliage which is practically impregnable against attacks of insects. It is extremely hardy, thriving in any climate. Great masses of large, superb flowers, perfectly formed, delicately tinted a clear rich pink, are produced the entire growing season and are only rivalled by the exquisite buds, which are of elegant formation.

COQUETTE DE LYON

Hardy as an Oak

No rose will give better satisfaction than this variety, filling a long-felt want in gardens where pure yellow roses are desired. In growth, it is hardy as an oak, quickly forming a well-rounded plant, the branches of which are covered from early Spring to late Fall, with large elegant buds, which develop into superb double flowers of a pure rich yellow.

THE BRIDE

Purest Ivory White

This charming rose deserves recognition from all rose lovers and its beauty should grace all gardens. The bush is a strong rapid grower, distinct in form and growth thriving under very unfavorable conditions and proving hardy in nearly all sections. The foliage is an added beauty to this marvelous variety, being a dark, rich green, and densely covering the bright smooth stems, on which are borne the large superb buds. The flowers of the purest ivory white are produced in abundance even during the hottest Summer months.

Arrangements for this Grand Rose Distribution have been under way for nearly a year. First we had to guarantee to use a certain tremendous quantity. Then the Rose Grower made his plans, devoting acre after acre of his Rose-growing lands to nothing but the six Roses we now offer you. By constant attention and care a most successful crop is the outcome and we are promised larger, stronger and better Rose plants than ever before, and they are centrally grown so that their development in any State or climate is assured. You need not hesitate on this point. The Roses we are to send you are fully developed and will grow. You can't stop it. If you love flowers, you like Roses best. There is nothing so beautiful in the garden, yet no plant is so hardy when properly cultivated from the first. You can through the benefits of this undertaking provide yourself with an immeasurable amount of pleasure from these Roses, and there are probably many friends of yours who would be interested in our offer, or who would be grateful for the roses for a sick room, or their flower-beds.

When you receive your Roses, place them in your flower-bed, if too early plant them in pots in the house until weather is seasonable, then put them outdoors, where they will bloom and remain full of blossoms until Autumn. We pack them with the roots placed in wet moss, and guarantee their safe arrival.

Special Free Household Assortment. To further the "home beautiful" you should fix up out doors as well as in many of the happy suggestions in this issue of COMFORT relate to flowers and flower-beds so you will appreciate this opportunity to secure a collection of roses free of expense. For only three trial five-months subscriptions to COMFORT at Ten Cents each, we will send you six Roses free as a premium. Twelve roses sent for a club of six, five-months 10-cent subscriptions.

Extra Special Anniversary Offer. Send 25 cents for five-months trial subscription to COMFORT and we will forward, all charges paid, this collection of the six above described Roses. We always pack and send at our expense, single, double or orders for larger quantities.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A White Bedspread For a Club of Eight

Will grace and adorn your bedroom and put on an air of refinement that will reflect creditably on you.

We have tried to convey to your eye through the illustration, the appearance of the spread or counterpane when carefully arranged on the bed. It finishes the bed and dresses up the whole room.

The pattern is one that cannot fail to please. The material is fine quality and workmanship the best.

For a slight effort we will give you one large spread suitable for a full size, full width and full length bed. The handsome figured design with deep bordered edge makes an effect pleasing and delightful.

Club Offer. We will send you, all charges paid, one of these large spreads as a reward for a club of only eight yearly subscribers at 25 cents each.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



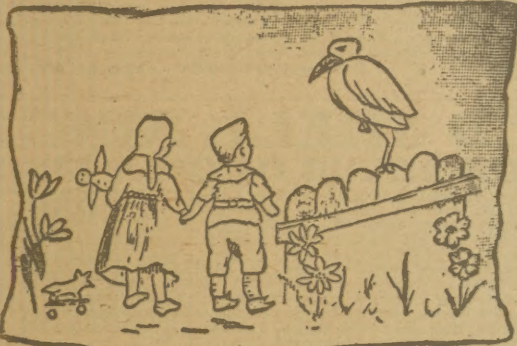
PILLOW SLIPS--SHEETS

Bleached Cotton Cloth

Sheets and Pillow Cases all made ready to use. What a lot of time and worry, not to mention labor, this eliminates. At present prices of raw material you cannot afford to add to the expense of the Cotton Cloth the labor required to make up several pair of Pillow Slips and several Sheets, when they are obtainable absolutely without cost. We have often had inquiries for such a premium and at last secured what we consider a splendid quality Cotton Cloth. This is carefully made up for us, in a clean sanitary factory, into these fine durable sheets and pillow cases illustrated here. The Sheets are 4-4 size, or 72 inches wide and 84 inches long, bleached thoroughly, with deep felled seams, all ready to use. Pillow Slips are 36 inches by 42 inches, with hem nearly three inches deep. When received the Sheets and Pillow Slips are ready to put into immediate use. You will enjoy them and fully realize how much easier and better it is to receive them in this all ready to use way, than to trouble to make them.

Club Offer. For a club of only five yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send a Sheet and Pair of Pillow Slips, to be as above described. Send at once, changing prices for cotton may increase the cost soon.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



HAND-PAINTED SOFA PILLOW

This Completed Cover Will Interest You

Everyone Loves a scene where the little folks are happy and interested. And everyone has a sofa, couch or chair that will be the prettier decorated with this charming pillow, always a reminder of the days of our youth when we too trudged along hand in hand with a little playmate. Done on Art Pillow Cloth of either a soft delicate shade of green or yellow, while the painting is in beautiful harmonious colors. Size 20x22 inches. For a club of only two live-months subscriptions to COMFORT at 10 cents each, you will receive this ornamental as well as useful hand-painted Pillow Cover all ready to receive pillow.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

I Can Say Papa and Mama and also Close My Eyes

FREE for Only Six Subscribers



A Speaking and Sleeping DOLL FREE

Can Say PAPA and MAMA
I am the Prettiest, Daintiest, Sweetest Lace-Dressed Doll you ever saw

Observe my Beautiful Raiment. Lace-trimmed Gown and Hat. Openwork Hosi, Low Shoes with Buckle and all sorts of frills and furbelows.

This newest premium is a Special Extra Large Size Imported French Doll, over a foot tall, and can be made to sleep and speak. To be exact, she measures sixteen and one-half inches from the sole of her feet to the top of her lace hat, requiring a big box eighteen inches long to pack her in. It is one of the most beautifully dressed Dolls ever given away as a premium for so few subscriptions or for such little effort as we require.

This is a wonder Doll and will positively please every little or big girl who receives her from us. Her pretty head is made of bisque, with long, natural curls; her handsome costume of lustrous silk finish; latest fancy trimmed, lace-bordered HAT; lace-trimmed underwear; openwork stockings, dainty low shoes with buckles, etc., etc. She is dressed throughout in the latest Doll fashion.

Our illustration does not do her justice; we can only show about how splendid she is. It would be impossible to show up her charms and graces, but you get a very good idea, and will be delighted when you receive and open the package and see her; and to see her is to love her, she is such a GRAND DOLL BEAUTY.

CLUB OFFER.

For only six yearly subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send free and post-paid, one of these magnificent, large Dressed Dolls.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

5000 COPIES "ST. ELMO" FREE

Remainder of This Edition Going for a Club of Two

Just a few hundred copies of our Anniversary Edition of "St. Elmo" remain on hand. We are anxious to distribute them immediately, hence our new offer herewith, and it is a splendid offer.

In addition to the regular variety of premiums, we scoured and scraped to obtain at least one premier inducement that would almost compel one to subscribe or get a club of subscribers for COMFORT, and after looking over the markets, compared, duly considering premiums heretofore made a special jubilee offer of a bound "St. Elmo." We negotiated, six of 5,000 copies at a special price most attractive offer conceivable. "St. Elmo" in COMFORT and was so splendidly tribute nearly 20,000 copies in com-subscribers. We are now offering you from new type plates on heavy book attractive lettered linen binding, making and a quarter for clubs of only member the story but did not obtain a making our previous offers, and the ested in "A Speckled Bird," will to obtain a copy of Mrs. Wilson's ous Anniversary Offer made here

Remember, we have a million subscribers and but 5,000 books. We cannot duplicate our order nor repeat this offer, therefore it will be well to safeguard yourself by sending a club of only two yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each by return mail. Remember, a club of only two yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each secures a bound volume of "St. Elmo," delivered post-paid.



BOYS' PRINTING OUTFIT

Make Money Printing Cards

All have an ambition to learn a trade that will give honest employment and mental improvement. With our handy Printing Outfit a boy or girl can accomplish the art of type setting as well as printing. These complete outfits consist of a six-foot set of rubber type; that is, there are six of each of most all the letters in the alphabet except some important letters have eight, and others only four, as "Q." A double set of numerals, commas, periods, and four handsome ornaments; also slugs or spaces to separate words—in all about 200 separate pieces of type. A two-line type holder for printing cards, etc. It works like a miniature Franklin printing press, so you can print your letters and thus make money. A pair of nicked pinners to handle type and a metal case everlasting ink pad. We send a wooden type case so that type can be arranged and kept in perfect order, also full and complete instructions how to set type, etc. A wonderful outfit for printing cards or small amount of text. Will afford amusement and instruction unbounded. Every child will appreciate and grown folks make use of sets for marking linen by procuring an indelible ink pad.

CLUB OFFER. For a club of only 2 yearly subscribers at 25 cents each, or three trial ten-cent subscriptions we will send post-paid one of these Outfits all complete.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

The Magic Fortune Teller

A Most Marvelous Invention. Answers Quickly.



Its replies to Love, Business and Troubles are immediate and accurate. It will forecast your future and tell you what you want to know if you but ask it. Constructed on strictly scientific principles, the adjustable horn acts as a medium of speech. You talk to it as though it were alive and its answers are revealed to you as though of the same breath. The action of your voice brings about startling and magical response. As an oracle or simple entertainer there is nothing like it. Your friends will all be delighted with you in its power to please as well as to inform you all about matters. You can now tell fortunes for money. If Fortune or Misfortune is lurking about you, if you are to marry or not, if joy and pleasure is to be your lot through life, or if you will gain what you least expect or anything else that now puzzles you, just direct your thought to this Magic Fortune Teller and everything will be clear. They are strongly made and handsomely nicked. There is nothing to get out of order and they will last a lifetime. We will send one for a club of only 2 yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

HOLY BIBLE



Also New Helps to the Study of the Bible

Prepared by the Most Eminent Authorities

The Sunday School Teacher's use of the Bible. How to study the Bible. The Christian Worker and his Bible. Scripture Texts for students and Workers. Forty Questions and Answers from the Word of God. Calendar for Daily Reading of the Scriptures, by which the Bible may be read through in one year. The Chronology and History of the Bible and its Related Periods. Table of Prophetic Books. Period intervening between the Age of Malachi, (450 B. C.) and the Birth of Christ. Summary of the Gospel Incidents and Harmony of the Four Gospels.

This is a splendid opportunity to obtain a practical, useful Bible, a new edition in a beautiful, durable and flexible leather binding, with gold stamped title on back and cover.

CLUB OFFER.

For a club of only ten yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we send one of these above described Bibles, post-paid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Flexible Morocco BIBLE FREE

ILLUSTRATED

With 32 full-page half tone pictures and 16 full-page colored maps.

GOLD EDGES

Containing the King James' Version of the Old and New Testaments.

These Bibles are unsurpassed for clear print, extra quality of paper, handsome flexible bindings, superior workmanship. Our illustrations show the Bible in various positions; laying flat open you see just how distinct is the type, the thumb index and the expansive leather binding, also the closed Bible with elastic band which protects the same when not in use, and in lower right-hand corner we show how the Bible may be rolled absolutely without injury.

STAMPING OUTFIT OF 100 DESIGNS

With Book Illustrating and Teaching Twenty-five Different Stitches in Embroidery.

A Remarkable Offer THESE ONE-HUNDRED designs are embroidery for all—a "stock in trade" for anyone wishing to do both large and small pieces, something that will satisfy the most fastidious.

Being new and up-to-date designs, they represent something you cannot afford to be without for your own and family use.

With the growing popularity of fine needlework, it has become an ideal gift for the bride, for birthdays and for presents, and what a helpful array of suggestions you can have with these 100 designs before you including the latest ideas in shirt-waists, Dutch Collars, Sofa Pillows, Tray Cloths, Handkerchiefs, Glove and Necktie Cases, Photo Frames, Centerpieces, Sideboard or Bureau Scarfs, Pin Cushion Covers, Fancy Bags, etc. besides three sets of alphabets for working purposes, these designs are perforated on seven sheets of imported bond paper, each measuring 22x28 inches. We also give you a seven-inch embroidery hoop, a felt stamping pad, and a tablet of French stamping preparation.

MORE STILL, we give you a most valuable book for those who know how to embroider and for those who are just learning. It teaches with illustrations forty-nine embroidery stitches, which include Eyelet, Fillet, Shadow, Wallachian, Herringbone, Long and Short stitch, Solid Kensington, Stem, Outline, Overlap, Couching, Satin, French Laid, Solid Buttonhole, Briar, French Knot, Chain and seventeen others. These directions and illustrations are so plainly given that no other teaching is necessary to learn to embroider.

Did you ever read so extensive a **SPECIAL OFFER**? I am sure you never have, and all this may be yours by sending us only two yearly subscriptions to Comfort at 25 cents each.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



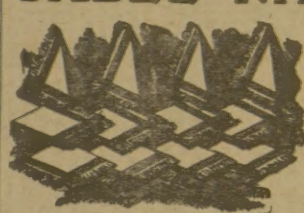
Baby's First Ring

The Little Darling Surely Wants One Now

These are baby sizes only and are designed for the little one's tiny fingers. Each is heavily embossed with the words BABY, PET or DARLING, just as you prefer. Made in one style only, the regular hoop or band ring of 14 karat gold filled, and will not tarnish. The demand for baby's and babies' sizes has encouraged us to have this special line made up for our particular customers and we are delighted with the patterns. They will please the parents of every lovely baby. Mamas and Papas, also friends, will find this an excellent privilege of obtaining the first ring for baby. We can promise satisfaction in fit if a bit of string or ribbon is sent showing size of the little finger. We will pack the ring in a cunning plush-lined box and you will be delighted with the whole.

SPECIAL OFFER. Send us only subscribers to this monthly at 25 cents each per year, and we will send a ring same day and enter subscriptions. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

TABLE NAPKINS

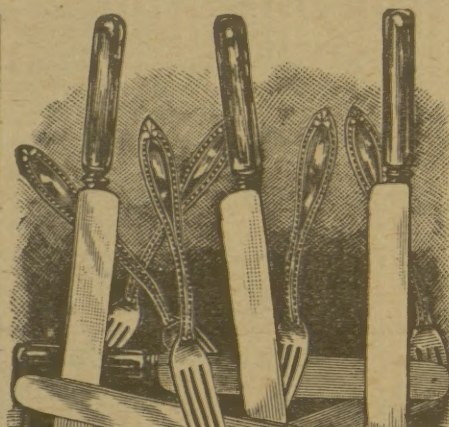


What an acceptable gift is a dozen white napkins for the dining table. A clean, fresh napkin gives a relish and delight to the table that nothing else will. There is nothing more appealing to the husband than his wife's effort to serve his meals temptingly. Table

linen goes far to meet this effect and it will be a great pleasure for you to possess a set of one dozen of these superior quality napkins. It matters not how many you may have in use, a few more will be acceptable and can be saved for "best" or when you have visitors. Rich is the housewife who has a large quantity of fine table linen, and the privilege of adding a few pieces free of any cost must appeal to our lady readers.

We will send you post-paid a set of 12 Club Offer. napkins for a club of 5 yearly subscribers at 25 cents each. Address

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Tableware in Fine Silver Plate

We have an extensive line of silverware and from the assortment selected a few of these sets of six Knives and six Forks to give away. These knives are made of the best of silver plated steel, usual shape and length, and the Forks are the handsomest ones we ever saw, being finished with a continuous row of small silver beads round the entire edge. This bead effect in silver goods is the very height of fashion, is extensively used on all solid silverware, in fact is used on most every article made of silver for dainty finish, ornamentation and attractiveness.

SPECIAL PREMIUM OFFER. Send us a club of only 13 yearly subscribers at 25 cents each, and we will send you a complete set of Six Knives and Forks, 12 pieces in all, as a premium and send each subscriber our magazine, COMFORT. Or we will give you your choice of Six Knives or Six Forks for a club of only 8 at 25 cents each.

EXTRA SPECIAL OFFER. We have also a family size Tea Spoon to match the Knives and Forks and can give you as a present a Set of Six Spoons, Six Knives and Six Forks, 18 pieces in all, for a club of only 15 yearly subscribers at 25 cents each. On this last offer you get a full set of silverware, sufficient for the family, absolutely free, as we pay all shipping charges. Send for samples of COMFORT and further information.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

FREE! AS BIG AS BABY. FREE!

Indestructible Stuffed Dolls that Stand Up or Sit Down. Their Heads Will Not Come Off.

These unbreakable dolls are nearly two feet high and so arranged they can either stand up or sit down. Their Beautiful Golden Hair, bright red stockings and black shoes make them very attractive for either very young or older children. You get one of these dolls and you are sure that the nose can't be broken off nor can baby punch in the eye; the bright colored cheeks and ruby lips retain their color and shape for all time. Every child delights to have from one to twenty different kinds of dolls in their family. Bright inventors, artists, and mechanics have been at work for years trying to perfect low-price, jointed, indestructible dolls that can be made to sit down, bend over, stand on their heads, move arms and legs, and be placed in all sorts of cute positions, either when dressed or undressed. The doll shown in cut, just patented, is a most wonderful and successful result of long, weary trying and is a beautifully finished, and can be placed in any natural position. Will last for years. Are more lifelike than anything ever gotten out before. For hours and hours every child will play with these good old grandma style, unbreakable stuffed dolls, even putting aside the very expensive and more elegantly silk and satin dressed dolls, never tiring of these as they can be dressed in many different

ways to suit the taste. They can be filled with more or less cotton just as the weight is preferred, as the material they are made of enables you to sew them together easily, so as to have a good, fat, plump doll or 1 of lighter weight.

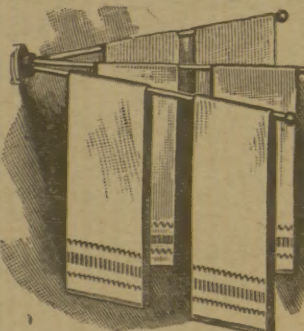
We Send You 2 Dolls Now Instead of 1.

A new arrangement enables us to send you a 10 inch doll free, in connection with the 20 inch doll we have already described. So you get 2 dolls for the price of 1. We have arranged to give these dolls for club raising and will send 1, all charges fully prepaid, if you send the name of 2 new yearly subscribers at 15 cents each.

Remember We send this magazine since 1 year to the subscribers you secure and send the Dolls to you as a premium. Will send 2 sets, 4 Dolls for securing 4 yearly subscribers at 15 cents each. 4 sets, of Dolls free for a club of 7 yearly subscribers at 15 cents each. Address

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

SIX TOWELS



We have selected as a gift for our agents a set of six huckabuck towels of good size, 15x28, made of high grade material. Such towels as we offer are usually sold at retail in most stores at high prices are a good value. By arranging to use a quantity, thus buying of the makers in whole cases, we can present six for a small number of subscribers.

CLUB OFFER. We will send you at our expense a set of six towels for a club of only 6 yearly subscribers to this magazine at 25 cents each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

PETITE STEREOSCOPE And Fifty Views

As Good as a Circus for the Children. A Nice Compact Metal Stereoscope, 50 Fine Pictures of Family Scenes, Pets and Wild Animals and a General Natural History Exhibition.



Free for a Club of Two

We are able to present a very interesting, entertaining, practical and instructive little article as here illustrated. This strongly metal-made adjustable Stereoscope with its good, powerful double lenses, gives a joyful entertainment to all. The Pictures stand out real and lifelike and give a pleasing and lasting impression when viewed through this Scope. It is the most instructive and entertaining idea ever devised for giving pleasure to the young folks at home, keeping them amused, instructed and out of mischief. The 50 Views are all carefully selected with the idea of pleasure and profit. There are Home Scenes of Domestic Pets, Farmwork Scenes, Trained and Wild Animals, Hunting Scenes, Views from the Arctic as well as the Tropical Countries, Horses, Camels, Bears and Buffalo Scenes, Exciting and otherwise, so that a regular monogram can be picked out besides the Home features. The Entire Outfit takes apart and folds up, being packed in a nice box to ship by mail, post-paid, the 50 Views being all packed in the metal holder and placed inside the box when sent to you. We send one of these complete outfits for a club of only 2 yearly subscribers to this paper at 25c. each.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

LADIES' GOLD SHELL RINGS YOU CAN GET ONE FOR A CLUB OF ONLY FOUR



Opal.

The boys should get one for their sweethearts. They make a swell present. We will give one ring free for a club of only four yearly subscribers at 25 cents each.

The delight of every young lady is in having handsome finger rings of the latest style and finish set with three handsome stones. A large center stone with smaller ones on either side same as shown in the illustration. These are Gold Shell Rings you may be proud of and they will wear well and not turn; they look like gold, wear like gold, and will stand gold acid tests. These settings are very rich and look refined and just as attractive as rings costing much money. We have three styles of settings and will allow you to make your own selections, Opal, Emerald and Ruby, with the finest imitation chip diamonds which add great brilliancy and set off the whole ring. We guarantee the sparkle of these stones to be quite equal to Genuine Diamonds costing hundreds of dollars and are always behind this guarantee. Each stone is set separately in Tiffany style and is sent in a nice Ring Box, plush-lined, just the ornament for your room and keeps the ring clean and from getting lost when not in use.

These Rings Are Free. We bought these rings to give away and the following offers are liberal enough to enable every reader to own one at once. Mothers should have one.



Emerald.

We will give one ring free for a club of only four yearly subscribers at 25 cents each.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

HOUSEHOLD HANDY TOOL OUTFIT.

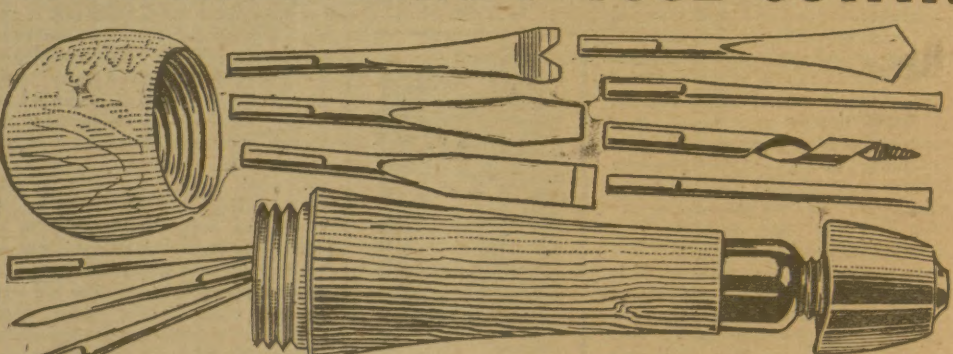


Illustration is but 3-4 Actual Size.

This handy Tool Set consists of ten useful handy tools for a hundred and one purposes. As illustrated the outfit consists of a Chisel, Screw Driver, Tack Puller, Reamer, Punch, Gimlet, Awls in several sizes, making a complete outfit for the Carpenter, Housewife, or the Office and Shop where smaller tools are frequently required for odd jobs. This is a most substantial article, the Maple handle is strong, fully finished and polished, with hollow center for the various hand-made steel tools, has a solid steel screw clamp with two steel jaws working on threads out deep and strong. With this tool any sort of repair work can be done with best results as the tools are strong and serviceable, furnishing you with just the proper article to do each sort of work and do it neatly and with dispatch. Just examine our illustration carefully and note how well made is the whole outfit, the wide variety of the assortment, and this illustration is but 3/4 actual size of the Set.

Club Offer. For a club of 3 yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each per year, we will send this Complete Set to you, post-paid.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

FREE This Beautiful Monogram Dinner Set of 42 Pieces

Each Piece Decorated with your Initial in Gold. Positively the Biggest and Finest Dinner Set ever Given Away as a Free Present. Any Lady Can Earn this Set in a Few Hours' Time.

This beautiful Monogram Dinner Set, full size, for family use, consisting of 42 pieces just as shown, is a present that will bring delight to the heart of any housewife and can be had absolutely free of charge for a few hours' easy, pleasant work among your neighbors and the people of your vicinity. This set is made of finest Parisian china, is a pure delicate white and decorated with wild rose design in colors, with the edges traced in gold. It is a set of dishes that you will be proud to own and put on your table and show your friends.

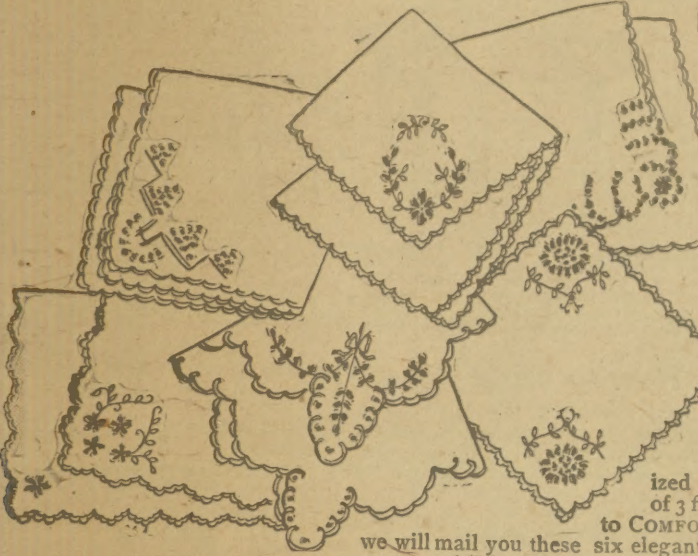
Your own initial in pure gold will be on every piece except the cups and saucers. The set consists of six large plates, six dessert plates, six large cups and saucers, six sauce or fruit dishes, six butter plates, two large vegetable dishes, one large platter, one cake plate, one bread plate, and one gravy bowl, making 42 separate pieces, positively the grandest array of dishes ever offered for this small amount of work.

Club Offer: For only 14 yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will present you with one of these beautiful Monogram 42-Piece Dinner Sets. The set will be carefully packed and shipped by freight upon receipt of the club order and each and every subscriber will be presented with one of COMFORT'S handsome Household Calendars for 1910. Remember only 14 yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each procures this Gold Decorated 42-Piece Initial Dinner Set. State what initial wanted when ordering.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



6 Handkerchiefs to Embroider 6



Fine, Silky Handkerchief Lawn

To embroider your own handkerchiefs is up-to-date and distinctive. As illustrated, there are six different designs, all equally handsome, measuring 11x11 inches square, the correct size for a dressy handkerchief. To be embroidered all in white, or in colors to match dress, or a combination of white and color in fine mercerized cotton. Send us a club of 3 five-months subscriptions to COMFORT at 10 cents each and we will mail you these six elegant handkerchiefs.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

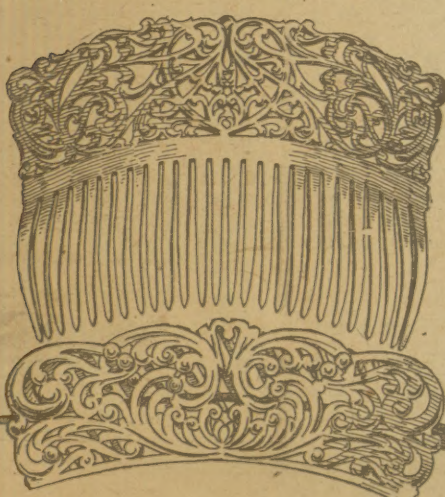
Cute Language of Flower Post Cards



We can only show two illustrations to give you an idea of what the Language of Flower Post Cards are like. The different flowers are neatly woven around to make the inscription on the cards and they are printed on fine stock and in many beautiful colors with landscape scenes arranged in a cute manner. On each card is the name of the flower represented and the inscription; the right-hand one shown in our illustration is made from the Lily, the language of which is "Peace." The language of the other is the same as the name of the flower, "Forget-me-not." Some of the others in this set are, the pansy, which language is "Think of Me," the wall flower, meaning "Fidelity," while white heather is made up into a nice inscription of "Good Luck," roses are interwoven so as to form the word "Love," and violets are fashioned into the word "Faithfulness," aster is made into the word "Hope," and clover, "Be Mine." Thus the

to read "I Love You," snowdrops form the word "I," the different kinds lithographed in this same general style. **SPECIAL Ten Cent Offer.** Send 10 cents only, for three-months trial subscription to COMFORT and this complete set of twelve cards will be sent you free without any expense.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Back Comb and Barette

Hand carved effect SHELL or AMBER COLOR

Perfectly Polished and Finished

Broad, stylish Tops, beautiful carved effect, the very latest style in Ladies' Back Combs. These very large combs are now exclusively worn, in preference to smaller combs or combs ornamented with gold or jewelry and are the only proper combs nowadays. Each comb is hand-made and hand-finished, is perfect-fitting, is smooth and does not have rough edge teeth as many combs do.

BARETTES now are indispensable with present style of wearing the hair, and the set we illustrate represents the proper and popular style, size and pattern.

Our illustrations convey only a partial idea of the extreme beauty of both Comb and Barette. Combs are five inches broad or wide, over three and one-half inches deep, with long, strong teeth nearly two inches deep, so that it would be practically impossible to lose one of these Combs from the head. The Barettes are over four inches wide, one and three-quarters inches high and are fitted with a strong bar pin made of same material with safety-locking device.

We furnish either Barette or Back Comb in either shell or amber color and make the following liberal **CLUB OFFER:** A Club of only two yearly subscribers to COMFORT, or four trial five-months ten-cent subscriptions to COMFORT. A COMB given for three trial five-months ten-cent subscriptions or a BARETTE for only two five-months ten-cent subscriptions to COMFORT. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Easter and Passion Play Cards

Set of Thirteen Post Cards FREE

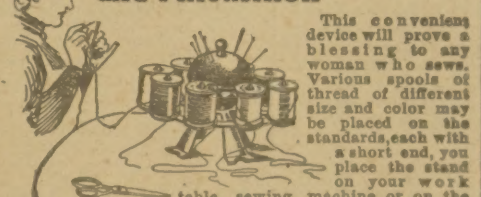


We want to present you with a set of our choice Easter Cards, which include bright colored and decorative cards exquisitely embellished with such appropriate designs as the Cross, Doves, Chickens, Rabbits, Easter Lilies, Eggs and lovely Human Faces and Figures, and prettily inscribed with different apt Easter Greetings, such as Easter Blessings, A Joyful Easter, Holy, Holy Easter Day, etc., etc. Effects in Gold and Bronze inks add brilliancy and beauty to the cards which comprise a complete Easter Set.

To introduce our Passion Play series of 50 cards we will send free to all prompt replies: a beautiful specimen card, one of the new series representing scenes from the world famous Passion Play. This one card alone should induce you to send for the set.

LUCK IN NUMBERS. To give heaping measure we send whole twelve Easter Cards and one Passion Play Specimen Card to all who send only 10 cents for 3-months subscription to COMFORT. Address COMFORT Easter Cards A, Augusta, Maine.

Revolving Spool-holder and Pincushion



This convenient device will prove a blessing to any woman who sews. Various spools of thread of different size and color may be placed on the standards, each with a short end, you place the stand on your work table, sewing machine or on the window ledge, or any convenient flat surface. Always before you and always at your service are the various kinds, colors and sizes of thread work demands.

No more hunting around the house, looking on the floor or searching through a work basket or bag. Instead your thread is always in its proper place and ready instantly for your use. "A place for everything and everything in its place" is well expressed in the use of this spool-holder. The round push pincushion in center will accommodate pins and needles in quantity, all parts are made of metal, except the pincushion. Eight spools of thread can be put on the holder at one time thus furnishing a complete and very useful article. Splendid for presents.

Club Offer. For a club of only three yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each we will send one Metal Spool-holder and Pincushion free. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A CAT PILLOW IN A COMBINATION OF

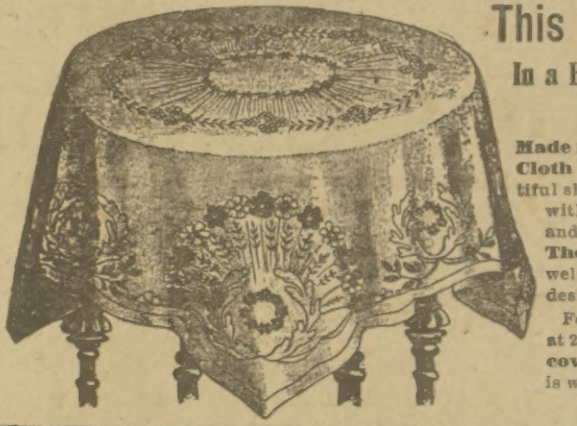


HAND PAINTING AND OUTLINE EMBROIDERY

Is a Cute, Pleasing Design of Frolicking Kittens, a subject which is sure to amuse the young and old and add to the cheerfulness of any room.

Combination means that when you receive this pillow the design will be hand painted in a beautiful blending of colors and you are to outline the whole design in a dark shade of mercerized cotton. Painted on Art Pillow Cloth of an exquisite green or softest shade of yellow, this outline embroidery produces an effect that can be had in no other way. It will "bring out" the playful attitude of the Kittens, giving a "raised" appearance which greatly adds to the beauty of the pillow which is 22x22 inches square.

Send in a club of Two five-months subscriptions to COMFORT at 10 cents each and we will Give you the above described pillow. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Me.



This Exquisite Table Cover

In a Beautiful Pattern Especially Designed Outline for Embroidery

Made from a new material called Yachting Cloth with real Irish Linen finish, in a beautiful shade of light brown that will harmonize with all shades of embroidery silk or cotton and is especially designed for table covers. The stamping includes a centerpiece as well as a border of an unusually graceful design and is one yard square.

For two yearly subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each will be given this beautiful cover, which can be used in any room. It is worth working for. Address

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A Pair of Nottingham Lace Curtains Free

Each Curtain Nine Feet Long.

This Most Beautiful and Elegant Premium Has Just Been Added for Selection to all who Send a Club of Only Five New Names.

The Curtains are full width and just what one needs to adorn the home with. Everyone of taste will tell you that there is nothing which "dresses up" a room so much as a pair of Lace Curtains. The finest effects are obtained by these draperies. They show from the outside as well as from the inside. They are of the real Italian pattern and formerly sold as high as \$6.00 to \$8.00 a pair. They are delivered free to you, all charges paid.

SPECIAL OFFER. If you will send us a club of only 5 trial yearly subscriptions at 25 cents each to COMFORT, we will send our magazine one year to each subscriber and one pair of Lace Curtains to you as a free premium. A club of only 9 trial 25-cent yearly subscriptions secured two pairs and we send three pairs for only 12 yearly subscriptions at 25 cents each. COMFORT goes to the subscriber each month and the Curtains to you.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

WARRANTED TO WEAR FIVE YEARS

Will Perfectly Fit Largest of Smallest Wrist

As shown in illustration, it is a beautifully engraved band of gold one quarter inch wide, has three adjustment slots and a pin. The pin may be put in first slot for largest size, in last slot for smallest size and in center for medium. It is a simple, practical adjustment that does just what it is intended to do and does it well. You cannot lose this Bracelet. **Warranted for five years;** meaning, the gold finish is durable for that length of time under our guarantee. Our lady readers will enjoy this Bracelet and, as it is a new style and new idea this season, you all want one right off while they are fashionable. We are making extra special inducements for clubs, so we have purchased this Bracelet in such quantities we are enabled to offer them to you now at a tremendous bargain. **Club Offer.** Send us only 3 trial five-month ten-cent subscriptions to COMFORT, amounting to 30 cents, for one of these beautiful Bracelets free. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Complete Household Cabinet

Containing over two hundred different articles always useful in and around the home, particularly to the mother who must do all the making and mending. The assortment of articles has been put together, after repeated calls for such an outfit, in convenient arrangement to provide the great variety of really useful and much wanted articles most likely to be needed. Each article is of full size and good quality and is such as you would usually purchase at any store. The following list of contents of each package will at once convince you we have made a good selection and in the right quantities.

- 1 Aluminum Thimble, standard size and weight. 1 Card with 3 doz. best quality Shoebottoms. 1 Paper with 2 doz. best Hooks and Eyes. 1 Card Household Mending Cotton. 1 Linen Tape Measure, 60 in. long. 1 Paper with 400 best quality Laid Pins. 1 Card with 1 doz. Safety Pins. 1 Card with 6 doz. Pearl Lintie Agate Buttons. 1 Tube with 50 Invisible Hairpins. 1 Paper best quality straight Hairpins. 6 Skeins of 5 yds. each Embroidery Cotton, assorted colors. 8 Stamped Linen Doilies in assorted Designs. 4 Papers of Needles, Sharps, sizes 2, 4, 6, 8, 10. 7 Ladies' Shari Pins, assorted sizes, glass beads. 1 Tape Bodkin. 4 Darning Needles. 10 Embroidery Needles. 1 Glove Buttoner. 1 Key-Ring. 1 Doz. Agate Cellar Buttons. 1 Doz. Best Kid Curlers. 1 Spool Linen Thread. 2 Glass-head and Pin 1 Pair 50c. 1 Pair Corset Laces.

Each Cabinet packed ready for shipment and positively contains all articles as described. A nice present for mother.

CLUB OFFER. For a club of only four yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we send this Cabinet of useful articles, post-paid. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

THIS BIG POST CARD ALBUM FREE



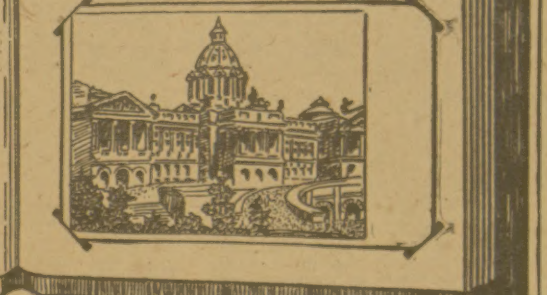
DON'T MISS THIS PREMIUM

We show this album as it opens, showing that four cards may be displayed before you on the 2 pages, also each leaf accommodates four cards, two front and back; the entire album accommodates fifty cards. You preserve and exhibit cards at same time.

The average post-card collector would naturally require three or four of these albums every year, now that post cards are produced in such various seasonal subjects. One could fill an album with all different Christmas cards and again with birthday and greeting cards, still another album for travel cards received from friends who are residing at a distance or traveling. In this way one can arrange and classify their cards and will then be preserved in a nice way and can present them to their friends they are presentable in a tasteful arranged manner for exhibition.

ALSO LOTS OF CARDS FREE

To go with ALBUMS. As long as they last you get Cards and ALBUMS for club subs. to COMFORT at these liberal terms **Club Offer.** Send 2 trial 10c 5 months subscription to COMFORT at 25 cents each and we will send you 25c 5 months trial subscription to COMFORT with 25c, and secure one of these 50 card albums. We give a fine lot of cards free with each album so you have an assortment of 15 beautiful cards, comprising all the popular subjects, such as Christmas, New Year's and Santa Claus, embossed in gold floral, birthday and sentiment, greeting cards, views of public buildings, bird and landscape cards as well as special Easter designs. You will miss a great big opportunity if you let this offer escape you. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Me.



A Silken Shower from a Necktie Factory.

A Big Lot of Real Silk, also Plush and Stamped Satin

REMNANTS FOR CRAZY PATCHWORK.

ART in needlework is on the advance. We know the ladies delight in odd pieces of silk and satin—"CRAZY QUILT" making is again VERY POPULAR. We are sure we have a bargain accumulate very fast at all NECKTIE FACTORIES; the styles were never so bright and pretty as they have been the past season and they are now burdened with remnants of many RICH GOODS. We have thousands of pieces of silk and satin on hand which we are going to give you a big trade on. People at a distance have hard times getting the right assortment to put into sofa-pillows, quilts, etc., and we can help you out now. Our packages contain from 99 to 125 pieces of the best quality assorted goods, and we want to get our great monthly and a lot introduced into every home; then you can order as you like for your friends, and MAKE MONEY doing our work and helping yourself also. Remember these

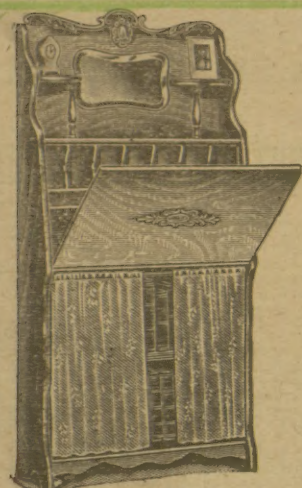
pieces are carefully trimmed, and especially adapted to all sorts of fancy, art, and needlework. Many ladies sell tidies, fancy pillows, etc., at a great price made from these remnants. Order one sample subscription lot now for only 25c. **Grand Offer!** If you order at ONCE, we will give you several rich, bright and beautiful stamped satin pieces; each piece contains nine square inches and being stamped by hand with a graceful design for embroidery, is a big bargain.

Five Skeins Embroidery Silks Free. In order to work your stamped satin and other pieces, we also send absolutely FREE, five skeins of elegant embroidery silk, all different bright colors. This silk is worth nearly the price we ask for the remnants, but we know if you ORDER ONE lot we will sell many in your locality, so make this liberal offer besides giving you a large and elegant piece of Plush.

BEST WAY. We send one of the above complete assorted lots FREE as a reward to all who send 25 cents for 6 months' subscription to "COMFORT," the best Home Monthly now published, and in order to get you to advertise "COMFORT" and this big bargain to your friends and neighbors, we will send free with each package, our great book With Eight Full-Page Illustrations for ornamenting the seams of Crazy Patchwork, or for other ornamental work where Fancy Stitches are used, it has no equal. It shows how pieces for patchwork may be put together to get the best effect, how to cover up seams with fancy stitches, how to join edges, etc. The book illustrates over one hundred and fifty of these, besides directions for taking a ART EMBROIDERY STITCHES comprising the Outline and Kensington Stitch, Arrasene and Chenille Embroidery, Ribbon Work, Plush or Tufted Stitch, etc. It also tells how to do Kensington Painting.

REMEMBER we send one big lot (over 100 pieces) Silk Remnants, the assorted stamped satin piece, 5 Skeins Embroidery silk, plush, and a great book on embroidery together with 6 months' subscription to "COMFORT," all for only 25 cents, or you may send two yearly subscribers at 25c, each and receive one lot free. Three lots and one year's subscription, 55c; five lots and subscription, for \$1.00.

Address COMFORT, Silk Dept. 4, Augusta, Maine.



Desk No. 107. Solid oak. Has French bevel plate mirror, pigeon holes and book shelves. Given with \$10.00 worth of our products.

Factory
to Home
Dealing



Saves all
Retail
Profits

Dinner Set No. 16078. Handsome set of 74 pieces made of light weight semi-porcelain, decorated with delicate pink roses and green foliage. Plain edges are neatly traced with gold. An exceptional value. Given with \$10.00 worth of our products.

The High Cost of Living

You know how the cost of living has gone up. How you are compelled to pay big prices for necessities which ought to be cheap. The situation has become so bad that people are organizing to find out how to bring prices down. There is one easy way to do it. Read the paragraph opposite this.



Ladies' Wearing Apparel. New Styles in Waists, Skirts, Hats, etc., all given with orders of our products.



Dining Room Furniture of all kinds given with our products. Four chairs or one table like above given with \$10.00 worth of our products, or both with \$20.00 worth. See catalog for illustrations and descriptions of many other kinds of Dining Room Furniture given by our Plan.



Ostrich Plumes. Very full and fluffy. Colors black, white or pale blue. 19 in. long. Given with \$10.00 worth of our products.

How to Bring Prices Down

The chief reason why you are paying so much for groceries is that the wholesaler and retail dealer both make a profit from you. Things which the manufacturer sells for 12½c. the retailer sells for 25c. You can save paying all this extra profit by ordering direct from us the manufacturer. Read the rest of this advertisement.



No. 10. Co-lapsible Go Cart. Can be folded in an instant. Given with \$10.00 worth of our products.

HOME COMFORTS Things to Please YOURS WITHOUT COST The Family

HOW many times have you wished for the comfort of new Home furnishings and yet your every day expenses were so high you could not afford the Couch, Bed, Rocker, Sewing Machine, Dresser, Chiffonier or Go-Cart which you wanted? But you may just as well have them now by simply taking advantage of our plan of ordering supplies direct from

Factory to Home

By this direct dealing you do away with all middlemen's profits and save about half the usual cost on over 280 staple articles of every day use, such as Family Laundry and Toilet Soaps, Washing Powder, Starch, Borax, Coffee, Tea, Spices, Baking Powder, Flavoring Extracts, Chocolate, Rice, Salt, Noodles, Macaroni, Beans, Etc., all fresh and of superior quality. This saving we give you in your choice of

OVER 1500 PREMIUMS

For example, the fine Rocker No. 1041 shown here or any article of furniture listed at \$10.00 is given with only \$10.00 worth of our Products. You can select not only from a full line of all kinds of Furniture, but also Rugs, Curtains, China, Silver, Wearing Apparel, Etc.

What Customers Say

Here is one testimonial taken from the thousands in our files.

CROFTS & REED CO., Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sirs:—"Goods and premium arrived in excellent condition and I am well pleased with them. I can always say 'Hurrah for Crofts & Reed Co.' Everybody is well pleased with my chair and some have tried to buy it, but I will not part with it." STELLA PARKER.

Address given on request.

Boys and Girls Clothing

This nobby boy's suit and pretty girl's dress shown above are only two of the many new styles of children's apparel which are illustrated and described in our handsome new catalog. Our Factory-to-Home Plan looks after the interest of the entire family from youngest to oldest. Many boys and girls earn money and premiums by using spare time for us. Ask about it.

Groceries at ½

If you prefer not to take advantage of our premium plan you may have our goods without the premium at half regular list prices. This means Laundry Soap at 2 1-2c. instead of 5c. a bar. Flavorings 10 and 12 1-2c. instead of 20 and 25c. Coffee 16 2-3c. a lb., instead of 35c. and so on through our list of guaranteed goods. Thus you get \$20.00 retail value for \$10.00.

Any average family will use \$10.00 worth of our Products every few weeks. It is easy to figure up how much you would save in a year by dealing with us on our Factory-to-Home Plan. One of our customers in Kentucky, Miss Sallie T. Lee, speaks of this point when she writes: "I was very well pleased with the premium. In 7 months I have sent orders amounting to \$58.00." This means that she saved just about \$58.00 by ordering of us instead of the dealer.

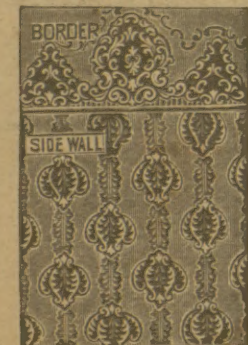
30 Days Free Trial—No Money In Advance

Our customers never take any risk. All of our Products and Premiums are subject to 30 days test in your own home. Money back and order removed at our expense if you are not delighted. Responsible parties need not even send money in advance.

Handsome New Book Free to Housewives

This is a book which you should have even if you send for it only out of curiosity. It will tell you how to keep your living expenses down; how to get \$20.00 worth of our Products for \$10.00. Don't fail to send for this free book. You probably have seen our advertisements before but did not write. Do it this time. You are curious to know what our plan is. Send coupon at lower left hand corner and you will get this book free at once.

Crofts & Reed Co., Dept. A 684, Chicago



Wall Paper. Many styles in new designs of fine wall papers. Given with our products by our Factory-to-Home Plan. See catalog.



Sewing Machine No. 557. Drop head, ball bearings. Latest improvements. Given with \$10.00 worth of our products for \$22 or free with \$31 worth.

Boy's Farm Wagon No. 3804. Strong and well made; just like a regular farm wagon. Body 18x36 in. Wheels 14 and 20 in. Given with \$10.00 worth of our products.



Couches. A full line of best designs in newest styles. Remarkable values. Given with orders of our products from \$10.00 up. See catalog for illustrations and descriptions of all our Couches, Day-ports, Morris Chairs and other Home Comforts which we give by our Factory-to-Home Plan.

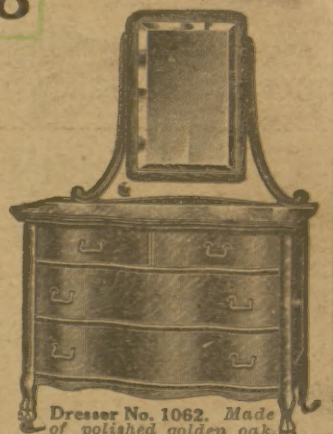
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Library Table No. 333. Made of quartered oak. Top 24x36 in. Given with \$10.00 worth of our products. This is a table which cannot fail to please you.



Dresser No. 1062. Made of polished golden oak. Serpentine front, quartered oak veneer. Top 21x40 in. Fine mirror. Given with \$20.00 worth of our products.



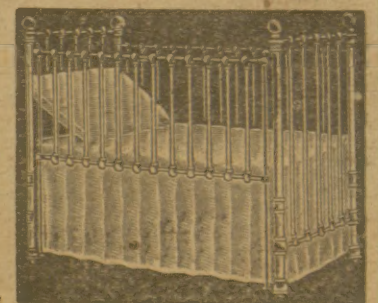
Vernis Martin Bed No. 697. Artistic design. Rich Vernis Martin gold finish. Height of head 6 ft. 6 in. x 4 ft. 8 in. wide. Given with \$10.00 worth of our products. See catalog for other beds, bedding, etc.



Petticoats in many styles. Fine materials. Well made. Given with orders for our products. See catalog for full description. Nearly every personal or household need may be supplied from our list of premiums. By our Plan you can furnish your Home and Clothe yourself without cost.



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Crib No. 403. White enameled iron crib. Improved sliding side. Given with \$10.00 worth of our products.

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